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COUNTY OF PEEBLES  
AND BURGHS OF  
PEEBLES AND INNERLEITHEN

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# Annual Report

*by the*

Medical Officer of Health

AND

County Sanitary Inspector

---

Year 1963



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AND BURGHS OF  
PEEBLES AND INNERLEITHEN

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AND

County Sanitary Inspector

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Year 1963

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# STAFF

## JOINTLY WITH MIDLOTHIAN COUNTY COUNCIL AND SMALL BURGH AUTHORITIES

Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN RIDDELL, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

Depute Medical Officer of Health :

LEWIS F. HOWITT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

## JOINTLY WITH MIDLOTHIAN COUNTY COUNCIL.

Medical Officers:

CHARLOTTE E. FORSYTH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

JEANETTE B. MORRISON, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S.(Edin.), C.P.H.

MARGARET MCKENZIE, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S.(Edin.), C.P.H.

\*ROBERT S. SLOAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MAIRI H. LACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

EILEEN REDDY, L.R.C.P. & L.R.C.S.(Edin.), D.P.H.

MARY D. GARDNER, M.B., Ch.B.

†ELIZABETH M. WATSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Dental Officer:

ROBERT P. NEILSON, O.B.E., L.D.S.

Dental Officers:

JOHN W. SWAN, L.D.S.

J. B. CLARK, L.D.S.

NORMAN P. THOMSON, L.D.S.

K. S. MACPHAIL, L.D.S.

B. McLEAN, L.D.S.

\*HELEN McLEAN, L.D.S.

R. W. BRAZENALL, L.D.S.

T. MACLAREN, L.D.S.

R. A. HODGKINS, L.D.S.

F. C. ROGERS, L.D.S.

S. RICHARDSON, L.D.S.

†H. A. MACKINTOSH, L.D.S.

County Nursing Superintendent and Supervisor of Midwives:

JEAN M. TINCH, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

Deputy County Nursing Superintendent:

\*MARGARET MATHESON, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

†LILLIE M. SMART, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

Senior Health Visitor:

ROBINA CAMPBELL, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

Superintendent Physiotherapist:

CHAS. A. MACMILLAN, M.C.S.P.

Administrative Officer:

ROBERT FULTON

Physiotherapists	....	....	4(*1)	Dental Auxiliary	....	1
Office Staff	....	....	12(*3†2)	Dental Surgery Assistants	12(*4†4)	
Milk Officers	....	....	3			

\*Resigned during year.

†Appointed during year.

## STAFF—*Continued*

### Consultants

#### Chest Physician

GEO. J. SUMMERS, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.P.(E), D.P.H.

#### Orthodontic Surgeon

W. RUSSELL LOGAN, O.B.E., L.R.C.P. & S. (Ed.), F.D.S., H.D.D.

#### Ophthalmic Surgeon

G. S. DHILLON, M.B., B.A., F.R.C.S.(E.), D.L.O.

#### Dental Anaesthetist

G. MACGREGOR ROSE, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.(E.), L.D.S., D.A.

## PEEBLES COUNTY

### County Sanitary Inspector :

I. R. M. GUTHRIE.

### Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

BASIL K. L. DOUGHTY

### Meat Inspectors (Part time) :

P. J. WILSON, M.R.C.V.S.

DUNCAN ROBERTSON, M.R.C.V.S.

### Health Visitor :

MARGARET C. P. ROSS, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.

### Health Visitor—District Nurse Midwives :

MAGGIE S. RAMAGE, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

AGNES V. STEELE, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

JANET T. STARK, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

HEATHER M. HERSCHELL, R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

†ANITA GRAY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N.

### District Nurse Midwives :

\*MARGARET J. ELLIOTT, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

\*SOPHIA L. HOPPS, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

†FINELLA MACLEOD, R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

### Consultant

#### Orthopaedic Surgeon

G. W. BAKER, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.(E.), M.Ch. Orth.

## PEEBLES BURGH

### Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

E. S. DUNCAN.

## INNERLEITHEN BURGH

### Burgh Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

ANDREW FAIRNIE

\*Resigned during year.

†Appointed during year.

# P R E F A C E

During 1963 the official figures for the 1961 Census became available. The following are the principal matters of interest:

## Population

The 1961 population of 14,156 was less than the 1951 population by 1,076 or 7.1 per cent. The natural increase (i.e., excess of births over deaths) during the period was 112 or 0.7 per cent of the 1951 population. This suggests that between 1951 and 1961 there was a net migration of about 1,200 from the county to other areas in the British Isles and to countries abroad.

Of the total population, 7,847 or 55.4 per cent were enumerated in the burghs and 6,309 or 44.6 per cent in the landward area. The population of the two small burghs went down by 527 or 6.3 per cent (Peebles 7.7 per cent; Innerleithen 2.6 per cent) and that of the landward area by 549 or 8.0 per cent.

The population increased in four parishes and decreased in ten. The greatest numerical decreases were in Peebles parish (610) and Innerleithen parish (172).

The ratios of females to 100 males are as follows:

	1951	1961
Scotland .....	109.3	108.6
Peebles County .....	116.2	115.4
Innerleithen Burgh .....	117.4	113.9
Peebles Burgh .....	131.4	126.4
Landward .....	104.1	107.1

## Change in population by age groups.

Age	Males Increase or Decrease 1951-1961 No.	Females Increase or Decrease 1951-1961 No.
0	- 19	+ 31
1-4	-119	- 66
5-9	- 28	- 37
10-14	+137	- 2
15-19	+ 5	-106
20-24	-150	- 77
25-29	-152	-144
30-34	- 52	- 94
35-39	-101	-110
40-44	-126	-172
45-49	- 36	- 45
50-54	+ 69	+ 2
55-59	+ 88	+ 54
60-64	+ 8	- 16
65-69	- 29	+ 28
70-74	- 2	+ 51
75-79	+ 15	+ 56
80-84	+ 20	+ 24
85-89	- 3	+ 18
90-94	+ 3	—
95 and over	—	+ 1
Not stated	—	—
All Ages	-472	-604



## Housing

The figures indicate that 1.4 per cent of the total dwellings in Peebles county (occupied or vacant) had one room, 15.9 per cent had two rooms, 33.0 per cent had three rooms, 26.5 per cent had four rooms and 23.1 per cent had five or more rooms.

The average number of persons per household fell from 3.15 to 2.89 between the two census dates.

In 1961, 16.5 per cent of all households present occupied one or two rooms (compared with 22.0 per cent in 1951), 59.9 per cent occupied three or four rooms (56.3 per cent in 1951), 11.1 per cent occupied five rooms (8.7 per cent in 1951) and 12.5 per cent occupied six or more rooms (13.0 per cent in 1951).

The number of households sharing a dwelling fell from 118 in 1951 to 29 in 1961 (0.6 per cent).

Of the 2,272 one- and two-person households present in the county on census night, 1,314 or 57.8 per cent contained persons of pensionable age, i.e., males aged 65 and over and females aged 60 and over. The 540 one-person households in this category (87 males and 453 females) accounted for 64.0 per cent of the total one-person households in the county.

Of the 4,614 private households present at the time of the census, 3,819 or 82.2 per cent had exclusive use of all four arrangements (cold water tap, hot water tap, fixed bath and water closet).

The percentages having exclusive use of, sharing or entirely without these arrangements at the two censuses are as follows:

		Exclusive		Sharing		None	
		1951	1961	1951	1961	1951	1961
Hot water tap	....	—	89.9	—	0.4	—	9.7
Cold water tap	....	95.1	98.7	2.4	0.7	2.5	0.7
Fixed bath	....	69.3	83.1	1.5	0.6	29.2	16.4
Water-closet	....	91.8	97.2	6.1	1.6	2.1	1.2

There has thus been a very considerable improvement in living conditions generally in the county during the ten-year period.

## Staffing

This year has seen fewer changes than for some time past and fortunately when we lost the services of a dentist, a deputy nursing superintendent and two district nurses, we were able to replace them all without undue delay.

## Cause of Death

As has been the case for many years diseases of the heart and circulation (comprising 56%) were the principal causes. Malignant disease (20%) ranked next, though this year the increase in this category did not take place in the respiratory system. The only death from infectious disease was one from non-respiratory tuberculosis. It is noteworthy that two deaths occurred from road accidents and four from accidents in the home.

## Child Care

The number of children from Peeblesshire taken into care during the year numbered 28. This is a figure which has been rising rapidly recently and gives one cause for considerable anxiety.

**Infectious Disease**

Last year it was a pleasure to record the fall in infectious disease incidence generally and the fact that there had been not one case of respiratory tuberculosis notified during the year. For 1963 it is still pleasing to report a continuation of this low incidence and further a considerable fall in the number of cases of dysentery.

**Immunisation and Vaccination**

During the year, on the recommendation of the Scottish Home and Health Department, the order of giving the various protective measures was altered to the following:

Age of child				Protection against
4 months	....	....	....	Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus 1
5 months	....	....	....	Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus 2
6 months	....	....	....	Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus 3
8 months	....	....	....	Poliomyelitis 1
9 months	....	....	....	Poliomyelitis 2
10 months	....	....	....	Poliomyelitis 3
13 months	....	....	....	Smallpox
18 months	....	....	....	Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/Tetanus 4
4½ years	....	....	....	Diphtheria/Tetanus
5½ years	....	....	....	Poliomyelitis 4
13 years	....	....	....	Tuberculosis

This has meant quite a considerable amount of confusion and, of course, a gross irregularity in the figures of injections, etc., given. The general level of protection against all these diseases does, however, remain high.

**Health Education**

As will be seen from the figures in the Report much time continues to be devoted to this. For schoolchildren, education in hygiene and mothercraft and on the dangers of smoking predominated; for adults, first-aid and home-nursing and mothercraft. Much effective work is, of course, done individually with children by the doctors, dentists and nursing staff.

**Mental Health**

The Scheme for mental health services was approved during the year and preliminary consideration had been given as to how the aims could most effectively be accomplished. It is hoped that the service will be functioning fairly adequately during the current year.

**Old People**

Dunwhinny Lodge completed its first year of existence and proved a most satisfactory Home from every point of view. All our places at Eildon View were also kept filled and there was generally a small waiting list. Because of this the Health Committee realises that it may well be necessary before long to provide further accommodation of this nature. Meanwhile we are using, as far as possible, all the domiciliary services available to keep the old folk comfortable and happy in their own homes.

## **Food Production and Hygiene**

As is natural in a county such as this, Mr Guthrie in his report devotes considerable space to the question of milk supply. It will be noted that 77 per cent of certified, 86 per cent of tuberculin tested, and 96 per cent of pasteurised milk samples taken were satisfactory. The increase in the bulk cooling and storage arrangements would appear to indicate that this will soon be the uniform practice.

Although Brucellosis was still present in the county, there were no major infections found.

## **Building (Scotland) Act, 1959**

The provisions of this Act are gradually becoming operative. With the appointment of Mr Guthrie as Master of Works, the volume of work which he will be called on to do after June, 1964, when the Building Standards (Scotland) Regulations, 1963, come into force, will of necessity mean a very heavy call on his time. Whether it will be possible to find this remains to be seen in view of his further new commitments under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises, Act, 1963, which largely becomes operative from August, 1964.

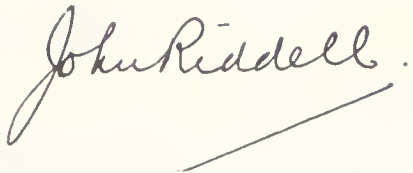
## **Acknowledgments**

Without the assistance of innumerable voluntary workers in our child welfare clinics, for welfare food distribution and for the chiropody clinics, our services would be immeasurably poorer.

The Health Committee and the various officials in the county and burghs who assisted us so much during the year also deserve our thanks.

The support given by the "Peeblesshire News and Advertiser" is excellent.

Finally, I would personally thank all the members of the Health Department Staff—clerical, nursing, dental, medical and sanitary—for the enthusiastic manner in which they have carried out their duties. Their tasks have been numerous and exacting and they have not spared themselves.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John Riddell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
10 DRUMSHEUGH GARDENS,  
EDINBURGH, 3.  
4th May, 1964.

# COUNTY OF PEEBLES

## VITAL STATISTICS, YEAR 1963

	Peebles County	Inner- leithen Burgh	Peebles Burgh	Land- ward Area
Population, Census, 1961 ....	14,117	2,299	5,545	6,273
Population estimated, 1963 (June)....	13,322	2,275	5,311	5,736
Live Births (corrected) ....	228	38	90	100
Illegitimate Births (corrected) ...	6	—	1	5
Still Births (corrected) ....	4	—	3	1
Deaths (corrected) ....	200	27	90	83
Deaths under 1 year (corrected) ...	5	—	1	4
Marriages Registered ....	86	15	46	25

## BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

(Landward and Burghal) per 1,000 of Population

	1962.	1963.	Scotland*
Birth Rate (corrected) ....	14.0	17.1	19.7
Death Rate All Causes (corrected) ....	14.8	15.0	12.6
Death Rate Tuberculosis (corrected) ....	0.07	0.08	0.10
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live Births ....	16.0	22.0	26.0
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births ....	21.0	17.0	19.0

\* Excluding Large Burghs.

## Ages at Death

Number of Deaths in the various age groups during 1963.

	Peebles County	Innerleithen Burgh	Peebles Burgh	Landward Area
Under 4 weeks ....	3	—	—	3
4 weeks—1 year	2	—	1	1
1—4 years ....	1	1	—	—
5—9 ....	—	—	—	—
10—14 ....	—	—	—	—
15—24 ....	1	—	—	1
25—34 ....	—	—	—	—
35—44 ....	5	1	1	3
45—54 ....	8	—	4	4
55—64 ....	37	6	15	16
65—74 ....	50	8	22	20
75—84 ....	74	10	39	25
85 and over ....	19	1	8	10
All Ages ....	200	27	90	83

## Infantile Mortality

Deaths classified according to age groups:

	Under 1 week	1 to 4 weeks	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 12 months	Total
Prematurity ....	1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia ....	—	—	2	—	—	2
Haemolytic Disease	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ....	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	3	—	2	—	—	5

CAUSES OF DEATH					Peebles County	Inner- leithen Burgh	Peebles Burgh	Land- ward
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis other forms	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis and its sequelae	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery all forms	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms of Respiratory System	....	....	7	3	4	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms of Lymph and Haemo Tissues	....	....	1	—	—	—	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	....	....	32	5	14	13	—	—
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes Mellitus	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anaemias	....	....	1	1	—	—	—	—
Other General Diseases	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular Lesions affecting central Nervous System	....	....	27	3	13	11	—	—
Non-Meningococcal Meningitis	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System	....	....	2	1	1	—	—	—
Rheumatic Fever	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	....	....	1	—	1	—	—	—
Arteriosclerotic and Degenerative Heart Dis- ease	....	....	67	6	37	24	—	—
Other Diseases of Heart	....	....	6	2	2	2	—	—
Hypertensive Heart Disease	....	....	4	1	1	2	—	—
Other Hypertensive Disease	....	....	3	1	—	2	—	—
Other Circulatory Disease	....	....	4	—	2	2	—	—
Influenza	....	....	1	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	....	....	3	—	3	—	—	—
Bronchitis	....	....	11	1	5	5	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	2	—	—	2	—	—
Appendicitis	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	....	....	4	—	2	2	—	—
Gastritis and Duodenitis	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (except of newborn)	....	....	1	—	—	1	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	....	....	2	1	—	1	—	—
Other Diseases of Liver	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	....	....	2	—	—	2	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	2	—	—	2	—	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Genito Urinary System	....	....	2	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis including Post-Abortive Sepsis	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal causes	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin and Organs of Locomotion	....	....	1	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth Injuries, Post Natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia of the Newborn	....	....	1	—	—	1	—	—
Diarrhoea of the Newborn	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infections of the Newborn	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases peculiar to early Infancy	....	....	2	—	—	2	—	—
Senility	....	....	2	—	—	2	—	—
Cause ill-defined and unknown	....	....	1	—	—	1	—	—
Suicide	....	....	1	—	—	1	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	2	1	—	1	—	—
Other Road Transport Accidents	....	....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents in the home	....	....	4	—	2	2	—	—
Other Violence	....	....	1	—	1	—	—	—
All Causes	....	....	200	27	90	83	—	—



## A.—LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS

### I—Care of Mothers and Young Children

#### Nursing Establishment

The Centres and duties of nurses are as follows:

Area.	No. of Nurses.		Duties.				Cars
			Mid-wifery	Home Nursing	Health Visiting	School Nursing	
West Linton ....	1						1
Broughton ....	1		"	"	"	"	1
Innerleithen ....	1		"	"	"	"	—
Walkerburn ....	1		"	"	"	"	—
Peebles ....	1		"	"	"	"	1
Peebles ....	1		"	"	—	—	—
Peebles ....	1		—	—	"	"	1

#### Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

No such Clinics are held under Local Authority auspices.

#### Dental Treatment—Expectant and Nursing Mothers

Mr Neilson, Senior Dental Officer, reports as follows: The demand for treatment by expectant and nursing mothers in Peebles-shire has never been excessive. The scheme started modestly in 1952 with nine patients and over the intervening years has fluctuated, reaching a peak of forty-two in 1955, and again in 1957, since when the demand has fallen away. This situation is, no doubt, associated with the fact that complete treatment facilities are now freely available in the general dental service.

In 1963 only 12 mothers sought dental inspection at the clinics, all of whom required, accepted and received, or are still undergoing, the necessary treatment.

It is interesting to observe that seven of the mothers actually attended during pregnancy and only five preferred to wait until after the confinement before seeking dental advice. It is perhaps imprudent to hope that the age-old prejudice is on its way out and that modern mothers are now becoming more enlightened and realise the value of early dental treatment during pregnancy.

The work carried out during the year is detailed hereunder:

#### Inspection

Centre	Number Examined		With Dental Defects		Offered Treatment	
	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
Mobile Unit ....	1	1	1	1	1	1
Peebles High ....	1	3	1	3	1	3
St Ronan's ....	5	1	5	1	5	1
Total ....	7	5	7	5	7	5

#### Treatment

Number of First Visits (a) Ante-natal	....	....	....	....	....	7
(b) Post-natal	....	....	....	....	....	5
Number of attendances	....	....	....	....	....	49
Fillings	....	....	....	....	....	8

Extractions	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	25
General Anaesthetics	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Other Operations	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	26
Dentures Fitted	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
Dentures Repaired	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
*Sessions devoted to Inspection and Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	17

\*This figure includes the time devoted to all pre-school work because, both mothers and pre-school children are for reasons of economy, intermixed when undergoing treatment at Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Clinics.

## Child Welfare Clinics

(a) The following Clinics were provided by the Local Authority:

PEEBLES—Hay Lodge—alternate Tuesdays—2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

INNERLEITHEN—St. Ronan's Secondary School—alternate Thursdays—2 p.m.-4 p.m.

WEST LINTON—Community Centre—every 4th Thursday—2 p.m.-4 p.m.

BROUGHTON—Clinic, Nurse's Cottage—Thursdays—2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

	Broughton	Innerleithen	Peebles	West Linton
Sessions held by—				
Doctor	13	13	26	12
Health Visitor	12	12	—	—
Children attending—				
Born 1963	7	21	31	4
Born 1962	17	14	27	3
Born 1958-1961	23	17	129	20
Revisits—				
Born 1963	97	88	212	6
Born 1958-1962	66	34	64	9
Average number in attendance per clinic	8	7	18	4

(b) No Clinics were provided by Voluntary Bodies.

## National Dried Milk and Vitamin Supplements

National Dried Milk and Vitamin preparations are distributed by the Health Visitors and at the following Centres:

PEEBLES—Eastgate Hall—Thursday, 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Child Welfare Clinic—alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

INNERLEITHEN—Child Welfare Clinic—Alternate Thursdays, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

WALKERBURN—Village Hall—alternate Thursdays, 2.30 p.m.-4 p.m.

WEST LINTON—District Council Office—each Tuesday, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

BROUGHTON—Nurse's Cottage—each Thursday, 2.30 p.m.-4 p.m.

TRAQUAIR—Post Office—Daily.

Fortunately all the voluntary workers who have given their time so generously to this purpose for many years, continued to “carry on.” Without their help we would have been in a very difficult position and we are correspondingly indebted to them. The average weekly uptake in the County during the year was:

National Dried Milk	45 tins	Cod Liver Oil	7 bottles
A. & D.	90 tablets	Orange Juice	65 bottles

Special Treatment Centres

(1) Eyes.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN REFERRED FOR VISUAL DEFECT.						
Cases Referred	Atten- ded Clinic	Left District	Own Oculist	Refused Exam- ination	Glasses pre- scribed	No Glasses prescribed
2	2	—	—	—	1	1

(2) Ear, Nose and Throat—No information available as to children treated.

(3) Other Ailments—No information available as to children treated.

(4) Ultra-Violet Light Treatment—No children treated.

(5) Orthopaedic—Eleven pre-school children were seen by the Orthopaedic Surgeon, all of them being given domiciliary care, or being treated at local clinics.

(6) Speech—No pre-school children were referred to the Speech Therapist.

Dental Inspection and Treatment—Pre-school Children

Mr Neilson reports as follows: The impact of the Dental Health Education Campaign, which took place in the early months of 1962, produced an all-time peak figure of pre-school children whose parents presented them at the various clinics for dental inspection. The actual number inspected in 1962 was 215, which compared very favourably with the average of 134 for the previous ten years. It is therefore all the more disappointing to record a reduction, even on the average figure, in the number of pre-school children examined in 1963, which rather suggests some lack of parental interest together with the obvious need of periodic stimulation.

Altogether 124 children were examined, 20 were dentally sound, 104 (83.9%) showed some form of dental defect as compared with 85.6% in 1962 and 85.1% in 1961. All the children (104) with dental defects were offered treatment, they all accepted, and throughout the year made 237 attendances at the clinics.

Details of inspection and treatment are set out hereunder:

Inspection

	Number Examined				With Defects				Offered Treatment			
	2	3	4	Total	2	3	4	Total	2	3	4	Total
Mobile Unit ....	—	1	4	5	—	1	4	5	—	1	4	5
Peebles High ....	3	30	73	106	3	20	65	88	3	20	65	88
St Ronan's ....	1	2	6	9	1	1	5	7	1	1	5	7
Various Day Schools ....	—	1	3	4	—	1	3	4	—	1	3	4
Totals ....	4	34	86	124	4	23	77	104	4	23	77	104

Treatment

First Visits ....	104	Extractions ....	68
Attendances ....	237	Other Operations ....	84
Fillings ....	84	General Anaesthetics ....	11

Residential Nurseries and Children's Homes

There are no such Homes in the County.



Mother and Baby Homes

There are no such Homes in the County, any cases being cared for by the Midlothian, East Lothian and Peebles Children's Committee.

Midfield House and Tenterfield House

Children in Homes at 30th November, 1962	....	....	....	....	1
Admitted during 1963	....	....	....	....	14
Died during 1963	....	....	....	....	—
Discharged during 1963	....	....	....	....	7
Remaining in Homes at 30th November, 1963	....	....	....	....	7

Children coming into care 1st December, 1962—30th November, 1963.

Under	2—4	5—15	Over	Total
2 years	years	years	15 years	
6	5	17	—	28

II—Maternity Services

(1) Births

Number of births in the authority's area during the year corrected for mother's residence.

	Adjusted Live Births	Adjusted Still Births	Adjusted Total Births
(a) Domiciliary	11	—	11
(b) Hospital (including private maternity homes)*	215	44	219
Total	226	44	230

\*(There were 147 births in Peebles War Memorial Hospital of which 3 came from outwith Peeblesshire).

(2) Premature Births

Number of premature births, i.e., where birth weight is 5 lb. 8 oz. or less (as adjusted by any notification of transfer in or out of the area).

Weight at Birth	Premature live births				
	Born in Hospital		Nursed entirely at home or in a private maternity home		Premature stillbirths born in hospital
	Total Births	Died within 24 hours of birth	Total Births	Died within 24 hours of birth	
2 lb. 3 oz. or less	—	—	—	—	—
Over 2 lb. 3 oz. up to and including 3 lb. 4 oz.	—	—	1	1	—
Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	5	1	—	—	1
Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	2	1	—	—	—
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	4	—	—	—	—
Total	11	2	1	1	1

### (3) Domiciliary Cases

Number of domiciliary confinements attended by midwives under N.H.S. arrangements				Total	Number of hospital (including private maternity home) booked cases where ante-natal care was carried out by the domiciliary midwife	Number of cases delivered in hospitals and other institutions but discharged and attended by domiciliary midwives
Doctor not Booked	Doctor Present	Booked Not Present				
1	6	4	11		2	3

**Note**—This table relates to women delivered, and not, in the case of multiple births, to infants.

						1962	1963
A. Domiciliary ante-natal care and confinement	....					9	11
B. Domiciliary ante-natal care—hospital confinement (emergency)	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
Toxaemia	....	....	....	....	....	1	—
Delayed Labour	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
C. Domiciliary ante-natal care—case originally booked for home confinement—booking later transferred to hospital	....	....	....	....	....	1	—
Domestic Reasons	....	....	....	....	....	1	—
Toxaemia	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
D. Domiciliary ante-natal care—case booked for hospital confinement	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
B as a percentage of A+B+C	....	....	....	....	....	9	9
Percentage of domiciliary confinements conducted by midwife alone	....	....	....	....	....	22	36
No. of anaesthetists called in	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
No. of consultants called in	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
No. of outfits issued	....	....	....	....	....	9	8

#### Period under ante-natal supervision.

Type of Case	Period under ante-natal supervision in weeks										Total
	0	1-4	5-8	9-12	13-16	17-20	21-24	25-28	29-32		
Domiciliary ante-natal care and confinement	*3	—	5	1	1	—	1	—	—		11
Domiciliary ante-natal care — hospital admission emergency....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—		1
Domiciliary ante-natal care — originally booked for home confinement —booking later transferred to hospital ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—
Domiciliary ante-natal care — hospital confinement booked ....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—		1

\*Unbooked cases

## Details of analgesia, etc., administered during the year—

						Doctor Not Present	Doctor Present
Trilene	....	....	....	....	....	1	3
Trilene and Pethedine	....	....	....	....	....	2	—
Pethedine	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
						<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Anaesthetic given by Doctor	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
Refused	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Too late	....	....	....	....	....	2	—
Not necessary	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
						<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>

## III—Health Visiting

### Domiciliary Visitation

	Cases	Visits
Expectant Mothers	1	10
Children born in 1963	227	1723
Children born in 1962	230	1365
Children born in 1958-61	707	2001
School Children	33	72
Persons aged 65 years and over	—	—
Mental Health—care and after care	6	20
Other hospitals after care	1	1
Tuberculosis households	29	176
Other infectious diseases	—	—
Other	118	1098
Persons visited above at request of G.P. or hospital	—	—

## Attendances at Clinics, etc.

### Local Health Authority Clinics

	Sessions
Ante-natal	—
Post-natal	—
Ante and Post-natal combined	—
Child Welfare	107
Immunisation	7
Mothercraft	21
Relaxation	3
Mothercraft and relaxation combined	2
Health Education	3
Deafness in young children	—

### Hospital Units

Maternity	—
Paediatric	—
Geriatric	1
Mental Health	2

### School Health

Minor Ailment	186
Eye	9
Medical Inspections	57
Health Education	18
Vision Testing	19

## IV—Home Nursing

							Number of
							Cases      Visits
All Cases	....	....	....	....	....	528	7,348
Under 5 years of age	....	....	....	....	....	9	81
65 years and over	....	....	....	....	....	359	5,580

## V—Domestic Help

							Wholetime Equivalent
							No. of Cases
Organisers	....	....	—		1	—	—
Home Helps	....	....	—		26	7	7
Night Attendants	....	....	—		—	—	—
Help given to Persons—							No. of Cases
Aged 65 or over	....	....	....	....	....	51	51
Under 65 years—Chronic Sick	....	....	....	....	....	10	10
Mentally Disordered	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Maternity	....	....	....	....	....	10	10
Others	....	....	....	....	....	2	2
Total							73

All Domestic Helps are X-rayed before first appointment.

## VI—Vaccination and Immunisation

### Smallpox Vaccination.

						Under 5 years.	5-14 years.	Over 14 years.
Number Vaccinated during 1963—								
Successful....	....	....	....	....	....	107	1	—
No reaction	....	....	....	....	....	20	9	—
Not examined	....	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Total	....	....	....	....	....	127	10	—

						Under 5 years.	5-14 years.	Over 14 years.
Number Re-Vaccinated during 1963—								
Successful....	....	....	....	....	....	3	2	48
No reaction	....	....	....	....	....	1	1	12
Not examined	....	....	....	....	....	—	—	10
Total	....	....	....	....	....	4	3	70

						6 mths. to 4 years	5-11+ years.
Percentage Vaccinated of those resident in							
County at end of 1963	....	....	....	....	....	77	90

198 Records (124 primary and 74 re-vaccinations) were returned by General Practitioners.

### Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation

						Under 5 years.	5-14 years.	Over 14 years.
Number immunised during 1963	....	....	....	....	....	195	2	—
Number given maintenance injection during 1963	....	....	....	....	....	130	124	—
Number of confirmed cases of diphtheria in 1963	....	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Number of deaths from diphtheria in 1963	....	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Percentage immunised against Diphtheria of						1-4 years		
those resident in County at end of 1963	....	....	....	....	....	84	95	

Records for 294 children were returned by General Practitioners.  
(173 primary and 121 "booster" injections)

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The number of persons vaccinated during 1963 was as follows:

	*Primary Vaccinations	Maintenance Injections	4th Maintenance Injections
Children born in years 1943-1962 ....	223	102	46
Persons born in the years 1933 to 1942	56	26	—
Others ....	86	45	—
Total vaccinated in 1963 ....	365	173	46
Total vaccinated from 1956 to 1962 ....	5202	5068	1244
Total vaccinated to date ....	5567	5241	1290

\* i.e., completed two injections.

	6 months to 4 years	5-14 years
Percentage vaccinated against Poliomyelitis of those resident in County at end of 1963 ....	81	93

Tuberculosis Vaccination with B.C.G.

During 1963 this service was continued for all pre-school and school children who were contacts of known cases of tuberculosis.

The following table sets out these skin tests, B.C.G. vaccinations and X-ray results by age and sex.

Age Group (years)	Under 1		1 and under 5		5 and under 10		10 and under 15		15 and under 20		Totals by sex		Total
Sex	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Positive Skin Test ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Negative Skin Test ....	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	4	2	6
Negative Reactors— Given B.C.G. ....	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	4	2	6
Positive Reactors— X-Rayed ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

School Leavers

The parents of all children born in 1949 were asked to give their consent to skin test, with B.C.G. vaccination of negative reactors and X-ray of positive reactors. In 97 per cent of cases the parents gave complete consent.

The positive reactors were X-rayed at special sessions at the schools by means of large films. No cases of tuberculosis were discovered.

No. Skin Tested			Refusals			Positive Reactors			X-rayed		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
85	86	171	4	2	6	9	9	18	9	9	18

## VII—Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

### Tuberculosis

The trend of notifications since 1935 is shown in following table:

	1935- 1939 Av.	1940- 1944 Av.	1945- 1949 Av.	1950- 1954 Av.	1955- 1959 Av.	1960	1961	1962	1963
Respiratory ....	6	11	17	11(2)	6(5)	4(1)	7(2)	—(1)	1(5)
Non-Respiratory	5	6	7	2(1)	1(—)	3(—)	1(—)	1(—)	1(—)
Total ....	11	17	24	13(3)	7(5)	7(1)	8(2)	1(1)	2(5)

Both notifications were confirmed. The figure in brackets is additional cases transferred in. These are included in previous averages.

#### Types of New Respiratory Cases Found

	Total Cases	Sputum + ve	Early acute	Chronic	Contact of known case
Male ....	—	—	—	—	—
Female ....	1	1	1	—	1

### Mass Radiography

Fifteen domestic helps, 9 teachers, 4 meals helpers and 1 cleaner were X-rayed at fixed Units in Peebles or Edinburgh.

### Number of Persons Resident in the County at 31st December, 1963, who were known to be suffering from Tuberculosis

By Area	Confirmed in 1963.		Total known Cases in Area.	
Area.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory
Landward ....	1	1	20	3
Peebles ....	—	—	16	2
Innerleithen ....	—	—	12	3
Total ....	1	1	48	8

By Age Groups	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	
Age Group (in years)	Under 5	and under 15	and under 25	and under 35	and under 45	and under 55	and under 65	upwards Total

#### Respiratory

Confirmed 1963	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total in County 31/12/63	M.	1	1	—	2	7	5	5	4
	F.	—	—	3	5	6	4	3	2

#### Non-Respiratory

Confirmed 1963	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total in County 31/12/63.	M.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	F.	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	4	7



## Particulars of persons who died from Tuberculosis in the County during the Year

Number of persons who died from tuberculosis ....      ....      ....      ....      ....	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Of whom—	—	—	—	—
Not notified or notified only at or after death	—	—	—	—
Notified less than one month before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 3 months before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 3 to 6 months before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 6 to 12 months before death	—	—	—	—
Notified from 1 to 2 years before death	—	—	—	—
Notified over 2 years before death	—	—	—	—

## Sanatoria

			In Sanatoria on 1st Jan. 1963	Admitted during 1963	Discharged or died during 1963	In Sanatoria on 31st Dec. 1963
<b>East Fortune Hospital</b>						
Males	....	....	—	—	—	—
Females	....	....	—	—	—	—
Children	....	....	—	—	—	—
<b>Other Hospitals</b>						
Males	....	....	—	2	2	—
Females	....	....	—	1	—	1
Children	....	....	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL—</b>						
Males	....	....	—	2	2	—
Females	....	....	—	1	—	1
Children	....	....	—	—	—	—
Total	....	....	—	3	2	1

There were no cases on the Waiting List at the end of year.

## Housing

		Overcrowded tuberculosis families			
		At December 1962		Rehoused during 1963	At December 1963
		Resp.	Non-Resp.		Resp.    Non-Resp.
Peebles Landward	....	—	—	—	—      —
Peebles Burgh	....	—	—	—	—      —
Innerleithen Burgh	....	—	—	—	—      —
Total	....	—	—	—	—      —

A shelter is available if required.

## Epileptics and Spastics

Reliable information in regard to the numbers of adults suffering from epilepsy is not available but at the present moment there are 2 known cases among children and young persons up to 18 years of age.

One mild case is in attendance at school and is able to undertake all activities under only mild sedation. The remaining case, an adult, is also of only mild degree.

Should any case be brought to the notice of this Department, where education and treatment at the Colony for Epileptics, Bridge of Weir, would be considered suitable, arrangements could be made for admission. Co-ordination with the Local Welfare Services is satisfactory.

As with epileptics, no reliable figures are available in regard to the number of adults suffering from Cerebral Palsy. There are at present 10 cases reported among children and young persons. One boy, formally at Stanmore House, was discharged on reaching the age of 16 years and is now under supervision at home. Where desirable, cases may be seen at Westerlea School for Spastics, and arrangements made for suitable cases to be admitted. In cases where the level of intelligence is such that they are not considered suitable for Westerlea, but where surgical intervention may be required, treatment is arranged at Princess Margaret Rose Hospital or Peel Hospital. Co-operation with the Welfare Services is satisfactory.

### Convalescent Home Provision

There are no convalescent homes in the County.

### Chiropody

The persons eligible for this service under the aegis of the Peeblesshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society are women over 60 years and men over 65 years, the charge made being 1/- per visit. The scheme includes a certain amount of domiciliary treatment for housebound cases, and many others are provided with special transport to bring them to the treatment centre. The number of treatments given during the year was as follows:

				Treatments
Peebles	....	....	....	240
Innerleithen	....	....	....	192
Walkerburn	....	....	....	96
Broughton	....	....	....	32
West Linton	....	....	....	80
Dunwhinny Lodge	....	....	....	88

This is a striking example of the most valuable work which can be done by voluntary organisations. The old folk benefit to an almost unbelievable extent.

### Accidents in the Home

More people are, of course, killed by accidents in the home than by accidents on the road and a very large proportion of these are burning accidents to children and old people. However, in 1963, two persons died in road accidents and four in home accidents.

This is not a new problem and Health Visitors are constantly advising parents and old people as to the dangers. One of the major



difficulties is in achieving the general use of a type of fireguard which can be firmly fixed to the fireplace. In recent years very few fireplaces have been fitted with eyelets for the attachment of fireguards as a standard fitting, although in 1956 a British Standard Specification for Fireguards for Solid Fuel Fires (B.S. 2788) was published.

Like the County Council, the Burgh Authorities since 1958 have agreed to provide tapped hooks for all fireplaces in new houses.

There is still relatively little demand for B.S.I. guards and continued propaganda is essential.

### Health Education

Throughout the year every opportunity was taken of educating the public and particularly the children in "Healthy Living." Talks often with films were given as shown in the following table. In accordance with our general principle of course, chief reliance was placed on individual talks to parents and children at school medical and dental inspections and maternity and child welfare clinics, and during home visitation.

Title of Talk		Secondary School Children		Preformed Youth		Groups Adult		Total	
Accidents in the Home	No. of talks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	No. present	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alcohol	No. of talks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	No. present	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dental Health	No. of talks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	No. present	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feminine Hygiene	No. of talks	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
	No. present	—	106	—	—	—	—	—	106
First Aid and Home Nursing	No. of talks	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	—
	No. present	—	—	—	80	—	—	—	80
Health Services	No. of talks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	No. present	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hygiene	No. of talks	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
	No. present	—	63	—	—	—	—	—	63
Infectious Disease	No. of talks	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	No. present	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	18
Mothercraft	No. of talks	10	—	—	—	24	—	34	—
	No. present	—	225	—	—	—	180	—	405
Nutrition	No. of talks	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	No. present	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	18
Smoking	No. of talks	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
	No. present	—	211	—	—	—	—	—	211
Milestones in Medicine	No. of talks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	No. present	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	No. of talks	29	—	8	—	24	—	61	—
	No. present	—	641	—	80	—	180	—	901

## VIII—Infectious Diseases

The following confirmed cases occurred during the year:

			Land- ward Area	Peebles Burgh	Inner- leithen Burgh	Total 1963	Cases not admitted to Hospital	Total 1962
Dysentery	....	....	19	—	6	25	25	66
Acute Primary Pneumonia			—	—	2	2	1	—
Malaria	....	....	2	—	—	2	2	—
Total	....		21	—	8	29	28	66

## Venereal Diseases

Patients attend for consultation and treatment at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, where they may be admitted to special wards for in-treatment if necessary.

Examination of specimens is carried out at the Infirmary Laboratory.

Medical practitioners in the County are supplied with the necessary outfits for taking specimens, which are sent to the Clinical Pathologist, Pathological Laboratory, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

Syphilis—Acquired	....	....	—	Non-gonococcal Urethritis	....	2
Congenital		....	—	Other Venereal Infections	....	2
Gonorrhoea	....	....	1	Non-Venereal Disease	....	2

## Bacteriological Services

The following statement gives details of the principal examinations carried out for the County Health Department and General Medical Practitioners by the Bacteriology Department, University of Edinburgh during 1963, to whom I am indebted for the following report:

“The total number of examinations made for the County of Peebles in 1963 has diminished from 1,871 to 678, mainly on account of the transfer of examinations of milk and water specimens to the Western General Hospital in April, 1963.

Although the number of throat swabs examined for haemolytic streptococci has fallen from 45 to 17, there has been a slight increase in the number of specimens submitted for general bacteriological examination.

*Shigella sonnei* from faecal specimens was isolated 25 times from 128 specimens, which may be compared with 30 isolations from 246 specimens in 1962. No salmonella were isolated during the year, nor were isolations made of *C. diphtheriae* or *Myco. tuberculosis*.”



# Waiting List for Admission to Hospital

Age		Male	Female
1-5 years ....	....	—	—
5-16 years....	....	1	—
Over 16 years	....	1	1
		<hr/> 2	<hr/> 1

The number of cases treated in Hospital during the year was as follows:

		Rosslynlee		Dingleton	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
In Hospital at 31/12/62	....	13	16	5	9
Admitted during 1963	....	3	3	14	13
Discharged „ „	....	4	—	15	8
Died „ „	....	—	3	—	1
Remaining at 31/12/63	....	12	16	4	13

Nine cases were given After-Care supervision by the hospital.

## X—Children's Acts

### Children Act, 1948

Children on Child Life Protection Register at 30th Nov., 1963	35
Children from Peeblesshire boarded-out in Peeblesshire	—
„ „ „ boarded-out in other areas	7
„ „ „ in Joint Children's Committee Homes	7
„ „ „ in Registered Voluntary Homes....	2
„ „ „ in other Local Authority Homes	1
„ „ „ in Registered Voluntary Homes and Hostels	2
Children from other areas boarded-out in Peeblesshire	14

### Adoption Act, 1958

Number of adoptions arranged by Local Authority	1
Number of children supervised under Part IV following notices—	
under (a) Secs. 37(1) (a) and 38	—
(b) Secs. 37(1) (b) and 38	5

### Nurseries and Child-Minders Regulation Act, 1948

There were no applications received during the year either for registration of premises or child-minders.

## B—SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The Report on School Health Services is issued separately.

## C—MISCELLANEOUS

### Welfare of Blind Persons

Ascertainment and supervision of blind persons is carried out by the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland Society for Teaching the Blind to Read at their Own Homes.

Age Group (years)	0-4	5-15	16-29	30-39	40-49	50-69	70+	Total
Registered in 1963	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Total on Register	M.	—	3	1	—	1	5	15
at 31/12/63	F.	—	—	—	1	8	8	17

1 boy under 16 years of age is mentally normal and is in attendance at the Blind Institution School; 2 other similar boys (albinos) attend Castlecraig Residential School.

#### Adult Blind

				Adult Blind			
				Employed		Un- employed	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
In workshops for blind	....	1	—	Not available for	employ-		
As approved home workers	—		1	ment	....	5	16
Others (excl. those at school)	5	—		Not capable of work	....	1	—
				<hr/>			
Total	....	6	1	Total	....	6	16

In addition there were 6 partially sighted persons registered in the County.

#### Aged and Infirm

Ambulant cases can be admitted to Dunwhinny Lodge, Peebles, or Eildon View Home, Galashiels. The following Table gives details of the Peeblesshire cases in residence during the year:

	Dunwhinny Lodge		Eildon View Home		Total
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
In residence at 31st December, 1962	14	17	10	3	44
Total number of admissions	....	2	5	1	8
Total number of discharges	....	1	2	3	6
Total number of deaths	....	1	2	—	3
In residence at 31st December, 1963	14	18	8	3	43

#### Number of beds occupied—

(a) Average during year....	....	31	12	43
(b) Highest	....	32	13	45
(c) Lowest	....	30	11	41

#### Nutrition

The nutrition of the community as a whole continued to be satisfactory.



## Hospitals

### 1. General

General cases are admitted to the War Memorial Hospital which has seventeen beds for this purpose.

### 2. Infectious Disease

Infectious disease cases from the eastern part of the County are taken to Galashiels Infectious Diseases Hospital, and those from the west to the City Hospital, Edinburgh.

### 3. Chronic Sick

These are admitted to Kingsland Hospital, Peebles, which has twenty beds.

### 4. Sanatoria

There are no sanatoria in the County, cases of tuberculosis being admitted to East Fortune Hospital or Bangour Hospital.

### 5. Maternity

Cases are admitted principally to the War Memorial Hospital, Peebles, which has eleven maternity beds.

### 6. Children

There are no such Hospitals in the County.

### 7. Convalescent Homes

There are no such Homes in the County.

## Registration of Nursing Homes

There is one Registered Nursing Home in the County. It has a maximum capacity of four patients.

## Ambulance Facilities

There is one ambulance centre in the County at the garage of the Tweeddale Motor Company Limited, Peebles.

## Housing

The position in the County generally with regard to numbers of houses was as follows:

Area	Uninhabitable houses closed during year		Houses built and occupied during year		Conversions	
			L.A.	Private	L.A.	Private
Landward ....	....	5	—	11	—	3
Peebles Burgh ....	....	10	20	7	3	—
Innerleithen Burgh ....	....	2	—	—	—	—

# Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959

	No. on Register	Inspections	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
			Written Notices		
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.					
Landward ....	—	—	—	—	—
Peebles Burgh ....	47	18	—	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh ....	7	6	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.					
Landward ....	13	11	—	—	—
Peebles Burgh ....	36	18	—	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh ....	22	18	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers).					
Landward ....	2	3	—	—	—
Peebles Burgh ....	5	14	—	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh ....	—	—	—	—	—

Area	Particulars	No. of cases where defects found				Prosecutions
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Landward	Sanitary Conveniences—Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
Peebles Burgh	Want of Cleanliness	3	3	—	—	—
Innerleithen Burgh	Sanitary Conveniences—Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
	Want of cleanliness	1	1	—	—	—

OUTWORK  
(Sections 110 and 111)  
NIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

## BY THE COUNTY SANITARY INSPECTOR

**Administration of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, the  
Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, the Milk (Special  
Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951, and the Milk  
and Dairies (Channel Islands and South Devon)  
Milk (Scotland) Regulations, 1958**

### I — Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914

Number of Registered Producers at 31st December, 1963 .... 59

### II — Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951

Special Designation	Licences in force at 31/12/1963			Licences	
	Pro- ducers	Dealers	Dealers Supple- mentary	Sus- pended 1963	Rein- stated 1963
Certified ....	5	9	2	—	—
Tuberculin Tested ....	58	27	2	1	—
Pasteurised ....	—	8	2	—	—
Sterilised ....	—	—	—	—	—
Total ....	63	44	6	1	—

All farms in the County registered in terms of the Milk & Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, held licences in terms of this Order at the end of 1963, with the exception of one where the licence to produce “Tuberculin Tested” milk was suspended on 10th December and not reinstated by the end of the year.

### III — “Certified” Milk

(1) *Producers’ Licences.* The number of dairymen licensed to produce “Certified” milk was reduced this year to 5. Two continued to wholesale their milk as “Tuberculin Tested,” a practice permitted by the Order, and in these cases the samples taken were tested to the latter standard. They are accordingly included in Part IV of this report. Of the remaining 3, 2 wholesale their milk as “Certified” (Jersey), and 1 wholesales his milk as “Certified.”

Results of routine samples taken from producers’ premises are set out below with, for comparison, last year’s results.

Samples in 1963		Samples in 1962	
Taken	Satisfactory	Taken	Satisfactory
30	24	25	20



(2) *Dealers' Licences.* Nine licences to sell “ Certified ” milk by retail from premises within the County were in force at the end of 1963:

The results of sampling were as follows:

Samples in 1963		Samples in 1962	
Taken	Satisfactory	Taken	Satisfactory
14	10	11	9

Much of this milk is “ imported ” into the County. Failures relating to such milk were, in all cases, taken up with the officers of the appropriate “ home ” local authorities.

(3) *Dealers' Supplementary Licences.* Such licences are issued to dairymen retailing milk in the district of one local authority from duly registered and licensed premises in the district of another local authority. Two such licences were in force in respect of “ Certified ” milk at the end of 1963. Six samples were taken and all were satisfactory.

#### IV — “ Tuberculin Tested ” Milk

(1) *Producers' Licences.* Set out below are two tables giving (1) the results of routine samples taken from producers' premises and (2) a break-down of these samples showing the distribution of their bacterial counts with, for comparison, corresponding figures for previous years:

Year.	Number of Dairies Sampled.	Samples taken.	Samples Satisfactory	Percentage Satisfactory.
1956	63*	380	338	88.9%
1957	65*	437	364	83.3%
1958	65*	378	315	84.0%
1959	65*	417	311	74.5%
1960	62*	390	323	82.8%
1961	61*	371	327	88.1%
1962	62*	372	307	82.5%
1963	60*	466	398	85.4%

\*Inclusive of two premises licensed to produce “ Certified ” milk but wholesaling output as “ Tuberculin Tested ” milk.

Samples taken having Bacterial Counts per Millilitre.

Year	Total Samples taken	Under 10,000		Under 100,000		Between 100,000 & 200,000		Over 200,000	
			%		%		%		%
1956	440	328	74.5	408	92.7	8	1.8	24	5.5
1957	437	303	69.3	396	90.6	13	2.9	28	6.5
1958	375	227	60.5	331	88.3	13	3.5	31	8.2
1959	417	211	50.6	351	84.2	14	3.4	52	12.4
1960	390	206	52.8	342	87.7	25	6.4	23	5.9
1961	371	224	60.4	338	91.1	15	4.0	18	4.9
1962	372	171	46.0	323	86.8	13	3.5	36	9.7
1963	466	258	55.4	425	91.2	15	3.2	26	5.6

The number of dairies involved in sample failures with comparative figures for other years is as follows, viz.:

Year	Number of "T.T." Dairy Farms	Consistently Satisfactory Samples	Number of Farms having			
			One Sample Failure	Two Sample Failures	Three Sample Failures	Four or more Sample Failures
1956	63*	34	16	6	6	1
1957	65*	25	17	15	6	2
1958	65*	35	18	4	3	5
1959	65*	23	16	11	4	11
1960	62*	25	16	16	2	3
1961	61*	32	17	10	1	1
1962	62*	26	18	11	3	4
1963	60*	26	15	11	4	4

\*Inclusive of two "Certified" Dairy Farms wholesaling milk as "Tuberculin Tested."

(2) *Dealers' Licences.* Twenty-seven licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk by retail from premises within the County were in force at the end of 1963. Of these, 1 related to milk sold at a milk bar included in a dairy farm registered under the Milk & Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, and 2 to milk vending machines regarded as separate dairy premises. These will be dealt with elsewhere in this report. One related to cartoned milk retailed from a farm or a milk bar associated with the farm. Eight were issued in respect of farms selling by retail a reasonable quantity of their production locally. Eight related to premises retailing milk produced and bottled outwith the County, 4 to premises where milk produced elsewhere within the County was bottled and sold by retail, 1 in respect of premises where milk produced outwith the County was bottled and retailed within the County and 2 were regarded as reserve licences held by "Certified" milk producers who made no use of them during the year.

Results of samples from these dealers (milk bars and milk vending machines excepted) are as follows:

Samples in 1963		Samples in 1962	
Taken	Satisfactory	Taken	Satisfactory
28	25	16	15

(3) *Dealers' Supplementary Licences.* Two dealers held supplementary licences entitling them to retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk in Peeblesshire from premises outwith the County, but as these were regarded only as stand-by licences intended by the holders to be available for emergency use, sampling was unnecessary. The bulk of milk from these premises is retailed as "Pasteurised" milk and as such is dealt with under the next heading.

## V — "Pasteurised" Milk

(1) *Pasteurisers' Licences.* There are no pasteurisation plants within the County.

(2) *Dealers' Licences.* Eight premises were licensed at the end of 1963 to sell, by retail, "Pasteurised" milk. "Pasteurised" milk was supplied to these premises from plants in Edinburgh, Penicuik and Galashiels.

Sample results are as follows, viz:

Samples in 1963	
Taken	Satisfactory
49	46

Samples in 1962	
Taken	Satisfactory
39	32

(3) *Dealers' Supplementary Licences.* Two dealers held licences to retail this grade of milk within the County from premises outside it. These licences were issued to authorise the sale of "Pasteurised" milk to Peeblesshire Education Authority and sampling data is provided under the heading "Schools Milk."

## VI — Schools Milk

All public schools within the County received a daily supply of "Pasteurised" milk in  $\frac{1}{2}$ -pint bottles, with the exception of Garvald School, Dolphinton, which, due to its isolated position, was provided with "Tuberculin Tested" milk in bulk direct from a farm in Lanarkshire.

The sampling results are as follows, viz.:

Supplier				Special Designation	Samples in 1963		Samples in 1962	
					Taken	Satisfactory	Taken	Satisfactory
Pasteurisation Plant No. 1 ....				Pasteurised	62	60	49	43
Pasteurisation Plant No. 2 ....				Pasteurised	8	8	9	9
Tuberculin	Tested	Dairy		Tuberculin				
Supply	....	....	....	Tested	6	5	6	5
Total ....					76	73	64	57

## VII — Milk Bars and Milk Vending Machines

Two milk bars and 2 vending machines were licensed to sell designated milk during 1963, but 1 milk bar did not operate during the year.

Samples of milk were taken with the following results, viz:

Samples obtained from		Samples in 1963		Samples in 1962	
		Taken	Satisfactory	Taken	Satisfactory
Farm Milk Bar	....	6	3	3	1
Vending Machines	....	26	26	10	8

It was established that the sample failures at the milk bar were due to the use of a cooler/dispenser, a part of which was almost impossible to sterilise, and it is understood that this will be replaced before the 1964 summer season.

## VIII — Synopsis of Samples

The overall picture of milk sampling in the County, irrespective of the source of the milk, is presented in tabular form below:

Samples from	Samples taken			Samples Satisfactory			Percentage Satisfactory		
	'Cert.'	'T.T.'	'Past.'	'Cert.'	'T.T.'	'Past.'	'Cert.'	'T.T.'	'Past.'
Producers	30	466	—	24	398	—	80.0	85.4	—
Dealers	14	28	49	10	25	46	71.4	89.3	93.4
Schools	—	6	70	—	5	68	—	83.3	97.1
Milk Bars	—	6	—	—	3	—	—	50.0	—
Vending Machines	—	26	—	—	26	—	—	100.0	—
Total	44	532	119	34	457	114	77.3	85.9	95.8

## IX — Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949—Specified Areas

It will be recalled that this Act introduced administrative machinery, the ultimate aim of which is to prohibit in the more heavily populated parts of the country the retail distribution of milk other than that sold in bottles under one of the special designations authorised in the Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order (i.e. "Certified," "Tuberculin Tested," "Pasteurised" or "Sterilised").

The Burghs of Peebles and Innerleithen are the only Specified Areas in Peeblesshire in terms of this Act.

## X — Milk and Dairies (Channel Islands and South Devon) Milk (Scotland) Regulations, 1958

These Regulations require, *inter alia*, that milk sold under the description of Channel Islands or South Devon Milk must contain a minimum of 4.0% butter fat. A quantity of milk is sold in the County as "Tuberculin Tested (Jersey)" or "Certified (Jersey)." Three samples were procured during the year, all of which complied with this requirement.

## XI — Bulk Cooling and Storage of Milk

At the end of 1962 5 bulk milk cooling and storage tanks had been installed on farms in the County. During 1963 1 further tank with a capacity of 250 gallons was introduced as part of a farm remodelling noted in Part XVI.

Results of routine samples taken from these 6 tanks were as follows:

Samples obtained from						Taken	Satisfactory
Farm No. 1	....	....	....	....	....	6	4
Farm No. 2	....	....	....	....	....	16	14
Farm No. 3	....	....	....	....	....	7	7
Farm No. 4	....	....	....	....	....	7	7
Farm No. 5	....	....	....	....	....	16	14
Farm No. 6*	....	....	....	....	....	2	2
Total						54	48

\*Part year only.

There is no doubt that the bulk cooling and storage of milk in this way may no longer be regarded as an innovation. It is now a traditional dairying practice, and indeed is well on the way to becoming *the* traditional dairying practice, so much so that it may not be long before the ubiquitous "churn" is a thing of the past.

The Scottish Milk Marketing Board's most recent report shows that 33% of the sales of milk through the Board's agency is now collected by road tanker, that in Peeblesshire 279,000 gallons of bulk tank milk per year are being collected with a further prospective 292,000 gallons, which would bring the total percentage of bulk tank milk to 39.9% of sales of milk in the County.



During the year, discussions were held and advice given to a further 5 dairymen who intend to install this equipment and there is reason to believe that 5 more are likely to follow suit in 1964.

One further bulk milk holding tank was installed during 1963 at a farm which wholesales bottled "Certified" milk to an Edinburgh dairy. This tank, however, is not mechanically refrigerated but is merely insulated, its purpose being to retain without rise of temperature bulk milk already mechanically cooled and to act as a reservoir for the milk bottling plant.

## **XII — The Bulk Transport of Milk (Scotland) Order, 1963**

To regulate the construction, maintenance, operation and cleanliness of bulk milk tankers, the vehicles which convey the milk from the individual farm tanks to the central pasteurisation plants, the Secretary of State in October formulated the Bulk Transport of Milk (Scotland) Order, 1963, operative from 1st January, 1964. It is likely that there will be 1 vehicle based in this County to which this Order will apply.

## **XIII — Round-the-Byre Milking Pipe-Lines**

The 2 installations of this kind in the County continued to function very satisfactorily, and while no others came into use in 1963, discussions were held with a further 2 dairymen contemplating this system.

## **XIV — Dairy Byelaws**

In addition to the 6 farms in which bulk milk cooling and storage tanks are in operation, and where chemical sterilisation of these tanks must necessarily be practised, there are now 10 dairy farms chemically sterilising all their dairy equipment on a regular basis. Although several had teething troubles until they learned the do's and don'ts of this new technique, it is pleasing to record that, in general, their sampling results have not so far deteriorated.

## **XV — Model Dairy Byelaws**

No further communication has been received from the Scottish Home and Health Department regarding the publication of these since that noted in my last report.

## **XVI — Dairy Improvements and Innovations**

The extension of a double-headed dairy byre to provide an additional 20 cow-standings, noted in my last report, has now been completed and the dairyman hopes to introduce mechanical equipment to wash down the central passage and clear the grips in 1964.

Electricity was introduced into the byres and dairy at another farm.

The walls of the milk room at a third were tiled and an insulated bulk milk holder installed, and at a fourth a refrigerated milk cooler was provided to comply with a requirement imposed by the County Council.

The year saw the inception of two new dairying techniques in the County. One firm of dairymen completely re-organised their dairy farm, installing a 60 ft. high, 20 ft. diameter silo, feeding silage automatically by way of impelling mechanism operating on the Archimedean screw principle to continuous mangers in a self-feed cattle court from which the cows are drawn off to a collecting pen before entering a herring-bone type milking parlour in which two operators working in a sunken area prepare and milk 16 cows at a time, the milk being led by stainless steel pipeline directly to a bulk tank situated in the adjoining milk room. A second firm submitted somewhat similar proposals for the Council's approval with this difference that the cows are bedded in an individual "cow cubicle" system whereby each animal has its own stall formed in tubular steelwork in which is a specially prepared bed to which the cow retires at will as opposed to the "tie" system of the traditional byre. As in a traditional double byre there is a central passage, but no grips, and feeding on the self-feed principle takes place at will at an adjoining silage face and not in the cubicle.

Both these systems are designed primarily to meet the ever increasing economic pressures of the milk production industry by reducing labour costs and increasing herd sizes and individual cow output, but there is little doubt that in the process they will also improve quality and hygiene.

## **XVII — Brucellosis**

In an attempt to eradicate *Brucella abortus* from the raw milk supply, with the co-operation of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, bulk milk samples were taken at all farms within the County producing raw milk for consumption without pasteurisation. In all cases, except one, negative results were obtained. In this case, on testing individual cows, none was found to be infected by the live organism.

During 1963 a further outbreak was established at a farm with a considerable history of this infection. This was brought to light following a notification from Edinburgh Corporation Health Department. Individual cow samples were taken, but at first no cow was found to be infected with the live organism. Later in the year, however, another notification was received from Edinburgh Corporation Health Department. Individual cow samples were again taken and this time one cow was found to be infected with the live organism. This cow was slaughtered at the first available opportunity. It is fitting here to record appreciation of the willing co-operation afforded by the dairymen involved in these investigations in general and by the one concerned in the outbreak reported above in particular. Without their willingness to dispose of infected or suspected animals for slaughter at some considerable financial loss to themselves—there is no statutory requirements to make them do so—there is no doubt that this disease would be much more widespread throughout Scottish dairy herds than it is.

**XVIII — Investigational Samples**

In addition to the routine sampling recorded elsewhere in this report, the following investigational samples were taken:

Certified	Tuberculin Tested	Total
28	43	71

These were taken in the course of investigations at producers' premises in efforts to trace and locate the source of contamination of milk.

**XIX — Suspension of Licence**

As a result of three consecutive samples from one farm having failed to comply with the appropriate standards set out in the Milk (Special Designations) (Scotland) Order, 1951, the County Council decided to suspend the "Tuberculin Tested" producer's licence held by the dairyman involved. After an unsuccessful appeal to the Secretary of State against the County Council's decision, this licence was suspended on 10th December, 1963, and remained so at the end of the year.

**XX — General**

It is worth noting that the number of sample failures from the eight "Tuberculin Tested" dairies shown in Table III as having three or more sample failures in the year represents 50% of the total sample failures for this grade of milk although the dairies involved comprise only 14% of the total "Tuberculin Tested" producers licensed. Were these results to be reasonably improved the overall percentage of satisfactory samples of "Tuberculin Tested" milk might well top the 90% mark as opposed to the present 85.4% as seen in Table I in Part IV (1). It is to be hoped that with continued pressure from the County Health Committee, supported by the Scottish Milk Marketing Board's quality milk payment scheme to be commenced in 1964, it may not be long before this target is reached.

Also noteworthy is the fact that three producers of "Tuberculin Tested" milk have had no routine sample failures over the past six years, while another three have a similar record over the past five years. This represents 10% of all the producers in the County.

**Administration of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, the Ice Cream (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1960, the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959, and the labelling of Food (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959**

**General**

The majority of the ice cream sold in the County continues to be sold merely as "ice cream" in accordance with the terms of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959, but one

manufacturer retails “ milk ice ” as defined in the same Regulations, and many retailers sell wrapped “ dairy ice cream ” supplied by large manufacturers. As this last variety is sold in the carton or wrapper in which it is received from the manufacturers, the sellers are exempt from registration.

	Premises	Vehicles, Storage and Sale
Number of Certificates of Registration in force at 31st December, 1962	10	—
Number of Certificates of Registration granted during the year	—	—
Number of Certificates of Registration cancelled during the year	—	—
Number of Certificates of Registration discontinued during the year for other reasons	—	—
Total number of Certificates of Registration in force at 31st December, 1963	10	—

### Sampling

(a) *Bacteriological*. Thirty-three samples were procured for bacteriological examination, 30 being primary and 3 follow-up on unsatisfactory samples. Two of these unsatisfactory samples were due to a high count and 1 to the presence of *B. coli*.

The repeat samples were satisfactory.

The criteria recommended by the Scottish Home and Health Department against which these samples should be judged are (a) a maximum permissible bacterial count of 50,000 bacteria per gram and (b) *Bacillus coli* to be absent from 1/100 gram.

(b) *Chemical*. Twenty-nine samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis, all of which complied with the requirements of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959. The analyst’s reports also demonstrated the variation in the fat and milk solids not fat content which exist between samples of the same grade of ice cream. These variations are tabled below:

Type of Sample	Minimum Standard		Analysis—Range				Average	
	Milk		Fat		Milk Solids		Milk	
	Fat	Not Fat			Lowest	Highest	Fat	Not Fat
Milk Ice	2.5%	7.0%	3.3%	4.9%	7.5%	7.6%	4.1%	7.5%
*Ice Cream	5%	7.5%	5.1%	9.4%	7.5%	14.1%	6.6%	9.3%

\*Non-Milk Fat.

None of the above samples contained artificial sweetener.  
All samples of milk ice contained milk fat only.



## ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1956

Sampling of food and drugs was carried out throughout the year in accordance with the Act and 71 test and 22 formal samples of the undernoted commodities were obtained.

Apples	Jelly (Fruit)
Baking Powder	Lemonade
Butter	Milk (Jersey)
Chocolate (Drinking)	Milk
Cider	Milk Ice
Coffee and Chicory Essence	Minced Beef
Cream (Single)	Pears
Cream (Double)	Raisins (Seedless)
Flour (Self-Raising)	Rum
Gelatine	Sausages (Beef)
Gin	Soup
Ice Cream	Whisky

Of these samples, 1 test sample of minced beef procured in the month of April (being outwith the period within which preservative in the form of Sulphur Dioxide is permitted in this foodstuff by the Preservatives in Food (Scotland) Regulation, 1962) was found to contain 343 parts per million of this chemical. A formal sample obtained from the same premises in May was likewise found to be non-genuine in that it contained 255 parts per million of preservative agent. The matter was duly reported to the Health Committee and passed to the Procurator-Fiscal. A prosecution followed and the vendor, pleading guilty, was fined £10.

## THE SOFT DRINKS (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS, 1963

These Regulations, due to come into operation on 20th July, 1964, re-enact with amendments the Food Standards (Soft Drinks) Order, 1953, and, *inter alia*, lay down compositional standards for soft drinks made from citrus fruit or the juice of citrus fruit, specify labelling requirements, prohibit pictorial devices and wording on the labels of flavoured carbonated drinks suggestive of any fruit, increase the minimum sugar requirements for soft drinks, reduce the maximum saccharin content, and specify the acids permitted to be added to soft drinks.

## THE BREAD AND FLOUR (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS, 1963

These Regulations are due to come into operation on 1st September, 1964. They prescribe, *inter alia*, permitted ingredients for white and brown breads, impose labelling and advertising requirements, impose restrictions on claims that any bread, biscuits, rusks or cereal breakfast foods are starch reduced and can aid slimming, prohibit claims that any of these foods have specific weight-reducing properties, prohibit, with exceptions and conditions, the

sale of flour and wholemeal containing colouring matter, bleaching or improving agents, and amend the Arsenic in Food (Scotland) Regulations, 1959, by providing that the maximum amount of arsenic permitted in reduced iron intended for use in the preparation of flour shall be 5.0 parts per million.

### **THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS, 1963**

These Regulations, due to come into operation on 1st January, 1964, require the pasteurisation of liquid egg to be used in the preparation of food intended for sale for human consumption, other than eggs broken out on the manufacturer's premises and used within 24 hours. These were formulated to secure the destruction of food poisoning bacteria, particularly in imported bulk liquid egg, used by bakers to which, in the past, many food-poisoning outbreaks have been traced.

### **THE FOOD HYGIENE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS, 1959**

Pressure of other duties prevented as much attention being given to the administration of these Regulations as had been intended.

Butchers' and bakers' establishments were re-visited, however, and advice given on structural requirements and the hygiene of food preparation. Discussions were held with the proprietor of catering premises which led to the establishment of a satisfactory business and the opportunity was taken when hotels changed ownership to advise the new proprietors of what was needed to bring their premises into line with the Regulations.

Contractors establishing a camp for workers and staff with an estimated population of 150 were advised on the construction and equipment of the kitchen, shop and dining halls, and inspections later carried out confirmed that the arrangements made were satisfactory.

The small-scale poultry dressing station in Peebles operated satisfactorily during the year.

## **SLAUGHTERHOUSES**

### **Peebles Slaughterhouse**

The conditions at this slaughterhouse remain as described in my report for 1962. Although the premises are well maintained and hygienic within the limits imposed by their design, construction and equipment, there is no doubt that a considerable sum of money will have to be spent within the next year or two to bring them into line with the various requirements of the Food (Meat Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations, 1961; the Slaughter of Animals (Stunning Pens)

(Scotland) Regulations, 1963, and the Food (Preparation and Distribution of Meat) (Scotland) Regulations, 1963, mentioned later in this report. I understand that Peebles Town Council, the owners of the slaughterhouse, are currently considering these matters.

### **Broughton Slaughterhouse**

This is the property of the Fatstock Marketing Corporation and deals exclusively in sheep for the export market.

The extensive alteration, modernisation and enlargement scheme described in my last report was completed in August, 1963, immediately prior to the winter slaughter season and the premises are now up to standard and able to cope with a through-put of 600/800 sheep per day, although in the current season the figure was actually only half of that. The drainage system of the premises, as envisaged in my report for 1962, is designed so as to deliver all industrial effluent to one point where it passes through a Parkwood Mechanical Screen, is then concentrated in a collection tank, whence it is discharged by a float-operated pump, aluminium pipe-line, and rotating spray gun, over some 20 acres of permanent pasture owned by the slaughterhouse proprietors. Unfortunately, the arrangement whereby all blood was to have been kept separate from the remainder of the effluent and removed from the premises by road-tanker did not function and, somewhat reluctantly, I advised the County Council, for the duration of the 1963/64 slaughtering season, to permit the operators to include it, heavily diluted with water, in their irrigant effluent. This was done and, on inspection, it has to be admitted that no objection on public health grounds could be raised. The winter months of 1963 were, however, abnormally open, and it may be that in a severe frost and snow conditions trouble could be experienced. In any case, before the present arrangements are permitted to continue, a review of the situation will be made at the end of the slaughter season in the spring of 1964.

### **The Food (Meat Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations, 1961**

The alterations in the partitioning of the lairages at Peebles Slaughterhouse required to permit the thorough ante-mortem inspection of animals in accordance with these Regulations, and approved by Peebles Town Council, have not yet been carried out. I understand that they are to await the outcome of the Council's deliberations on the other structural alterations referred to previously in this section of the report.

Notice in terms of Regulation 16 was given on five occasions to the local authority of the area wherein was situated the cold store to which meat found on routine inspections at Peebles to be infested with *cysticercus bovis* was despatched.

Notice in terms of Regulation 13 was given on one occasion to the person in charge of a slaughterhouse to which meat slaughtered, dressed and inspected at Peebles had been transferred.



The Assistant County Sanitary Inspector continued to act as Meat Inspector at Peebles Slaughterhouse, as did the Slaughterhouse Superintendent at Broughton, the latter by sanction of the Secretary of State in terms of Regulation 18.

### **The Food (Meat Inspection) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1963**

These Regulations, which came into operation on 1st September, 1963, amended the Food (Meat Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations, 1961, so as to authorise local authorities to impose charges for meat inspection on the person causing the animal to be slaughtered for human consumption instead of, as previously, defraying the cost of the service as a rate-borne function.

The County Council reviewed the meat inspection service in the County in the light of these Regulations and, after consultation with interested parties, resolved to impose the following charges, viz.:

Cattle	....	....	....	....	2/6d
Calves or Pigs	....	....	....	....	9d
Sheep	....	....	....	....	4d
Per animal inspected.					

### **The Slaughterhouses Act, 1954**

No new Certificates of Registration in terms of the above Act were issued during the year.

### **The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Scotland) Regulations, 1955**

These Regulations, designed to secure humane conditions and practices in connection with the slaughter of animals at slaughterhouses, necessitated regular inspection of Broughton Slaughterhouse. No breach of the Regulations was observed on these occasions.

### **The Slaughter of Animals (Scotland) Acts, 1928-54**

Seven slaughtermen were granted licences in terms of the above Act. All licences were limited to sheep slaughter, utilising electrical stunning equipment.

### **The Slaughter of Animals (Stunning Pens) (Scotland) Regulations, 1963**

These Regulations, due to come into operation on 1st December, 1965, are made under Section 2 of the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954, which was designed to secure humane conditions in slaughterhouses. It has long been felt, in my view

justifiably, that the traditional "rope and ring" method of securing cattle for stunning and subsequent slaughter in Scotland was barbarous and unnecessarily cruel, quite apart from the danger involved to the operator, and these Regulations will prohibit this practice by requiring that stunning pens be provided and used for adult cattle.

The term "stunning pen" is defined in the Regulations as "a pen or compartment which is suitable for confining a bull, ox, bullock, cow, heifer or steer while it is being stunned and which is so constructed as to confine, without discomfort, only one such animal at a time, to prevent any substantial movement of the animal forwards, backwards or sideways, and to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, any animal so confined from seeing into the slaughterhall."

### **The Food (Preparation and Distribution of Meat) (Scotland) Regulations, 1963**

These Regulations are made under powers contained in Section 13 of the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956, relating to food hygiene and come into operation on 1st July, 1964, except for certain structural requirements relating to slaughterhouses which will not come into effect until 1st July, 1967. They contain provisions for regulating the construction, equipment and maintenance of slaughterhouses and meat markets and for securing the hygienic handling of meat at all stages up to its arrival at retail premises (where it comes under the provisions of the Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations, 1959). They also lay down conditions for the transport of meat.

They are intended to fill a gap of long standing in public health legislation by providing local authorities with powers to apply sound, up-to-date principles of hygiene to slaughterhouses, meat markets and bulk meat transport, and to a large extent, at large cost, they will indeed do so. In one aspect at least, however, they will, I suspect, disappoint local authorities and public alike. For many years now the practice of transporting sides of beef and offal from slaughterhouses or meat markets to retail premises "protected" only by a dirty, greasy "hap" on platform lorries, often with shanks protruding, has justifiably been criticised and condemned (the sanitary inspector, incidentally, usually being blamed for this state of affairs). It might have been reasonable to suppose that this indefensible practice would have been wiped out immediately by the new Regulations. Unfortunately, this is not to be the case and it will not be before July, 1968, at the earliest that the Secretary of State will be empowered to require that all bulk meat is carried in suitably constructed vans. In the intervening period, albeit subject to certain conditions, meat may still be carried on a platform lorry under a canvas or tarpaulin tent.

In order that they may be fully aware of their responsibilities under this new legislation, I have addressed a circular letter to all the butchers in the County setting forth the main provisions and enclosing excerpts from the Regulations.

# Slaughtering and Meat Inspection Statistics

The following tables give the number and species of animals slaughtered at Peebles and Broughton Slaughterhouses during 1963 together with condemnations and disease conditions necessitating condemnations:

## Peebles Slaughterhouse

Condemnations	Cattle excluding Calves	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
1. <i>Tuberculosis</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned....	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....	—	—	—	17	17
2. <i>Cysticercosis</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses affected but passed after treatment by re- frigeration ....	5	—	—	—	5
(b) Whole carcasses condemned....	—	—	—	—	—
3. <i>Actinobacillosis and Actinomycosis</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned....	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....	6	—	—	—	6
4. <i>Septicaemia</i> (Fevered Carcasses)—					
Whole carcasses condemned ....	—	—	1	—	1
5. <i>Trichinosis</i> —					
Whole carcasses condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—
6. <i>All other diseases</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned....	1	3	4	1	9
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....	158	—	22	19	199
Total of diseased animals slaughter- ed as shown at 1 to 6 above ex- cluding the figures at (a) of para. 2	165	3	27	37	232
Total number of animals slaughtered	624	27	2,113	711	3,475

## Details of Meat and Offal Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption at Peebles Slaughterhouse during 1963, in terms of Section 9 of the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956

Animal	Condemnations wt. in lbs.				Total
	Total Condemnation	Partial Condemnation	Meat	Offal	
Cattle ....	185	1,480	185	1,480	1,665
Calves ....	118	9	118	9	127
Sheep ....	156	57	161	52	213
Pigs ....	93	317	340	70	410
Total ....	552	1,863	804	1,611	2,415



## Broughton Slaughterhouse

Condemnations	Cattle excluding Calves	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
1. <i>Tuberculosis</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned....	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—
2. <i>Cysticercosis</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses affected but passed after treatment by re- frigeration ....	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Whole carcasses condemned....	—	—	—	—	—
3. <i>Actinobacillosis and Actinomycosis</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned....	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—
4. <i>Septicaemia</i> (Fevered Carcasses)—					
Whole carcasses condemned ....	—	—	7	—	7
5. <i>Trichinosis</i> —					
Whole carcasses condemned ....	—	—	—	—	—
6. <i>All other diseases</i> —					
(a) Whole carcasses condemned....	—	—	28	—	28
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....	—	—	3,255	—	3,255
Total of diseased animals slaughter- ed as shown at 1 to 6 above ex- cluding the figures at (a) of para.2	—	—	3,290	—	3,290
Total number of animals slaughtered	—	—	32,307	—	32,307

## FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

My services as “Official Sampler” for the County were not requested during the year.

Six test samples of fertilisers were procured in my capacity as Inspector under the above Act. These are listed below and proved in all cases, on analysis, to be genuine, complying with their respective warranties.

Bone Meal	Potato Manure
Clay's Fertiliser	Sulphate of Potash
National Growmore with Bone Meal	Thomson's Manure

Six test samples of feeding stuffs listed below were also obtained and found to comply with their warranties:

Baby Chick Mash	Growers Pellets
Chicken Crumbs	Layers Mash
Chicken Pellets	Layers Pellets

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Investigational visits were made in respect of the following cases of infectious disease:

Dysentery (Sonne)	....	....	....	....	....	25
Food Poisoning (Toxic)	....	....	....	....	....	2
Food Poisoning (Paratyphoid B)	....	....	....	....	....	2
Acute Primary Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	2
Malaria	....	....	....	....	....	2

One serious outbreak of food poisoning occurred in the County during the year, when a bus-load of day-trippers from Clackmannanshire, all women, were taken acutely ill shortly after having had a meal in a Peebles hotel, so much so, in fact, that they had to be driven directly to hospital. Fortunately, the symptoms, though acute and extremely unpleasant to the sufferers, were not long-lasting nor dangerous. By the timely action of the local police, all foodstuffs used in the preparation of the meal had been immediately impounded and it was possible to check these as well as the kitchen equipment and utensils for the presence of the organism isolated from the cases—but without success. The food handlers were also checked and although no conclusive link could be established, two were found to harbour a toxin-forming organism in their nasal passages which might easily, by sneeze or otherwise, have spread infection. Subsequently, the persons in question voluntarily underwent medical treatment with satisfactory results. This is the type of case which underlines the paramount necessity for all persons handling and preparing food for others to be particularly careful in matters of personal hygiene. The rules are simple. The penalty for neglecting them can be great.

One further occurrence of a like nature merits mention—information received from a neighbouring local authority health department led to an investigation being made into the employment as a cook in a residential institution of a person known to be a carrier of a food-poisoning organism. Fortunately, after checks had been made to ensure that no harm had been done, the carrier, with the co-operation of the institution authorities, was transferred to duties removed from food preparation.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS

### **Anthrax**

Although notices in terms of the Anthrax Order, 1938, were issued in respect of 64 animals which died in suspicious circumstances during the year, in no case was anthrax confirmed by the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

### **Foot and Mouth Disease**

No case of this disease was reported during the year.

## Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

When this Order was introduced in 1957 as a measure to prevent, in particular, the spread of foot and mouth disease by requiring the boiling of waste foods intended for feeding to certain animals and poultry and the licensing of the plant used for this process, 2 licences were issued. No revocations or additions have been made in 1963.

## Fowl Pest

No case of this infection was reported in the County during 1963.

## Swine Fever

Two Form A. Notices defining infected places were served during 1963. These were both withdrawn when the disease was not confirmed.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council's rat destruction service operates under four general headings: (1) The free survey and treatment afforded to all dwellinghouses and local authority non-trading establishments; (2) the survey of all subjects liable to infestation in pursuance of the duty placed by Section 2 of the Act on the local authority to take such steps as are necessary "to secure as far as is practicable that their district is kept free from rats and mice"; (3) the treatment on a contractual basis of premises, predominantly agricultural in character, which to an extent is complementary to (2); and (4) the treatment on an hourly charge basis of business, industrial and agricultural premises where the occupier opts for this form of charge as against the contract or "agreement" system.

The following tables show the classes and number of properties dealt with during the year, the visits paid and the time involved:

### Survey

Type of Property	Number of Properties Surveyed	Number of Survey Visits	Time (Hours)
Agricultural ....	199	258	138
Business or Industrial ....	11	22	14
Dwellinghouses ....	16	16	11
Local Authority ....	24	72	40
Total ....	250	368	203

### Treatment

Type of Property	Number of Properties Treated	Number of Treatment Visits	Time (Hours)
Agricultural ....	51	389	231
Business or Industrial ....	2	6	3
Dwellinghouses ....	4	18	9
Local Authority ....	3	25	21
Total ....	60	438	264

The "Agreement" System referred to above is the system adopted by the County Council as long ago as 1946, whereby owners or occupiers of property may have the rat catcher's services as a routine, as often as required on payment based on the gross valuation of the property in respect of which the agreement is made. This payment, until 15th May, 1960, was 5d per £ of the gross valuation, with a minimum payment of £3, but as from this date it was increased to 8d and £5 respectively. At the end of 1963 there were in force 33 agreements relating to 43 properties, predominantly agricultural in nature.

## HOUSING

### Local Authority Houses

No new houses were erected by the County Council during the year.

### Private Enterprise Houses

The following were erected during the year or were under construction at the end of the year:

	Apartments per house	Housing Assocs. other than S.S.H.A.	For sale	For letting	Total
Completed during 1963	2 or less	—	—	—	—
	3	—	—	—	—
	4	—	3	2	5
	5 or more	—	1	2	3
	Total	—	4	4	8
Under Construction at end of 1963	2 or less	—	—	—	—
	3	—	1	—	1
	4	—	4	—	4
	5 or more	—	2	—	2
	Total	—	7	—	7

### Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1950 and 1962—Closure/Demolition Procedure

Two railway crossing-keepers' houses belonging to the British Transport Commission were demolished during the year to comply with Demolition Orders made by the County Council. Demolition Orders on a further three were revoked to permit, in the case of two, their modernisation, and in the case of the remaining one, its use as an agricultural store.

## Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, Part VII—Improvement Grants

Ten applications for grant-aid towards the improvement of house properties were received during the year 1963. These will result in the provision of:

1 house of 6 apartments	}	by improvement, and
3 houses of 4 apartments		
5 houses of 3 apartments		
2 houses of 2 apartments		
1 house of 5 apartments	}	by conversion
1 house of 3 apartments		
1 house of 2 apartments		

The total estimated expenditure on the “improvement” as opposed to the “general repairs” element in these cases amounted to £18,532 10s 10d, and the total amount of grant thereon promised by the County Council to £4655 8s 9d.

Since the inception of the Improvement Grant Scheme in 1949, 131 applications relating to 138 houses have been lodged. Of these, 1 has been refused and 10 withdrawn. The over-all grant-earning expenditure is approximately £122,800 and the grant-aid promised and/or paid £44,566, 75% of the loan charges, on which sum is met by the Exchequer and the remainder by the ratepayer.

The improvements in respect of which grant was promised during the year fell into the following categories, viz.:

- (1) Provision of bathroom, kitchenette and larder accommodation, with appropriate alterations to water supply, electricity and drainage services;
- (2) Provision of additional accommodation;
- (3) Improvement of natural lighting and ventilation, damp-proofing arrangements, etc.;
- (4) Conversion of agricultural building into house;
- (5) Conversion of ex-sanatorium ward into house;
- (6) Conversion of condemned property into house.

When the Improvement Grant Scheme was first introduced in 1949 to assist with financial aid to private persons to provide modern facilities in houses which lacked these but were otherwise structurally sound, the maximum grant payable in the normal course of events was £300. This figure was raised to £400 in 1954 by the Housing (Repairs & Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954, but, to date, some 10 years later, there has been no further increase, although building costs have risen steadily during the intervening years. It is openly admitted that, viewed nationally, the scheme has been comparatively unsuccessful and it would appear to me that this may in part be due to the unrealistic level of grant-aid which, to have any attraction at all, would have to be advanced now to £600.

## Housing (Agricultural Population) (Scotland) Act, 1938—Section 4

Three 4-apartment houses for agricultural workers were prior to 1952 erected in terms of this Act in replacement of 3 houses dealt



with under closing procedures as being unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered so fit at reasonable cost. The grant-aid given amounted to £900. This part of the Act was repealed by the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1952, which contains improved measures for providing new houses for the agricultural population and its application is set out under the next heading.

### **Housing (Scotland) Act, 1952—Section 3**

This is the legal provision under which the County Council has adopted a Scheme duly approved by the Secretary of State for Scotland whereby grants-in-aid may be made in respect of new housing accommodation provided solely for occupation by members of the agricultural population. The grants are lump sum payments and presently amount to:

£240 in respect of a house of three apartments, and

£300 in respect of a house of four or more apartments;

subject to certain conditions as to type, dimensions and facilities to be provided being complied with.

One application for grant-aid under the County Council's Scheme was received and approved during the year. This related to the provision of a 4-apartment house at an estimated cost of £2600.

Since the inception of the Scheme in 1953, 19 applications have been made to and approved by the County Council, of which 4 have not been proceeded with. The total grant sum involved is £4080, 25% of which falls to be borne by the ratepayer and 75% by the taxpayer.

Here again the level of grant-aid has remained static since 1952.

### **Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts**

161 farmhouses and farm cottages have been improved under the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts since their inception, 9 by conversion, while a further 23 new houses have been, or are being, erected. The improvements range from minor repairs, installation of electricity, water supplies and drainage systems to full-scale modernisations.

### **Housing (Repairs and Rents) (Scotland) Act, 1954, and Rent Act, 1957**

These Acts, which, *inter alia*, enable tenants, in certain circumstances, to withhold increases of rent imposed by their landlords, have not been made use of in this County and no applications were received during 1963 for a Certificate of Disrepair.

### **The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959**

This Act places an obligation on the local authority to make what is known as "Standard Grants" to private house owners and lessors for the provision for the exclusive use of the occupants, of



“ standard amenities ” in houses which lack these, but are otherwise, in the local authority’s opinion, structurally sound with a life of at least 15 years.

The “ Standard Amenities ” comprise:

- (1) A fixed bath or shower in a bathroom (Maximum grant-aid—£25);
- (2) A wash-hand basin (Maximum grant-aid—£5);
- (3) A hot water supply (this must be connected to a sink as well as to a bath or shower and a wash-hand basin) (Maximum grant-aid—£75);
- (4) A water closet (Maximum grant-aid—£40) and
- (5) Satisfactory facilities for storing food (Maximum grant-aid—£10),

and to qualify for this assistance the house must on completion of the works be provided with all five of these amenities.

One application under these provisions was received during 1963. The cost of providing standard amenities in this case was £200, towards which the County Council undertook to give a grant of £67 10s.

Since the inception of this scheme in 1960, only 7 applications have been made to the County Council and of these 2 have not been proceeded with.

## COUNTY COUNCIL’S BUILDING BYELAWS

During 1963, 66 applications for approval of works in terms of the Council’s Building Byelaws were considered and approved by the Landward Health and Housing Committee.

The applications dealt with related to the following, viz.:

(1) Erection of new dwellinghouses for private owners	17
(2) Erection of transportable dwellinghouse	1
(3) Extension and alterations to dwellinghouses, including provision of bathrooms, kitchenettes, additional accommodation, etc.	29
(4) Erection of temporary living, dining and sanitary accommodation for engineering staff and employees building Fruid Reservoir, Tweedsmuir	2
(5) Erection of sanitary accommodation on caravan site	1
(6) Erection of offices	1
(7) Erection of clubhouse	1
(8) Erection of garages	2
(9) Erection of kennels	1
(10) Erection of chlorination house	1
(11) Erection of agricultural buildings	4
(12) Alterations to club premises	1
(13) Alterations to hotels	2
(14) Extension and modernisation of slaughterhouse	1
(15) Extensions and alterations to agricultural buildings	3
(16) Conversion of buildings	4

## Building (Scotland) Act, 1959

This Act establishing a new concept of building control in Scotland is due to come fully into operation on 15th June, 1964, by terms of the Building (Scotland) Act, 1959 (Appointed Day), Order,

1963. Its main effect, so far as the landward areas of counties are concerned, will be the replacement of county council committees hitherto appointed to deal with matters relating to building bylaws, by "buildings authorities," originally appointed by county councils but operating independently of them in the manner of burghal Dean of Guild Courts, against whom the right of appeal will be direct to the Sheriff.

The County Council agreed that I be appointed Master of Works with a view to my undertaking the duties of this office in terms of the Building (Scotland) Act, 1959.

### **The Building Standards (Scotland) Regulations, 1963**

These Regulations, made in terms of the Building (Scotland) Act, 1959, are due to come into operation on 15th June, 1964, and essentially establish a comprehensive code of building practice embracing every facet of traditional building construction, yet being sufficiently elastic to accommodate the needs of new techniques and new materials which, more and more, dominate the building scene. The Regulations are consequently extremely complex and to administer them in the way in which they should be, there is no doubt that the Master of Works will indeed need to possess "the amalgam of skills" considered vital by the Committee on Building Legislation in Scotland in their report published in 1957, on which was based this new legislation. Few officials, certainly in the smaller authorities, can, understandably, claim to be experts in this field and it is to be hoped that early consideration will be given by those responsible towards the establishment of a course of technical instruction leading to a diploma or certificate of proficiency within reach of any person competent to advise a building control body as envisaged by the above-mentioned committee.

### **BURGH POLICE (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1892—SECTION 191**

No new intimations in respect of the rendering safe of dangerous structures were issued during the year.

One property being dealt with at the end of 1962 was rendered safe to my satisfaction early in 1963.

### **TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS**

Six applications for approval in terms of the Council's Byelaws relating to Tents, Vans and Sheds were lodged.

These related to:

- (1) The erection and extension of holiday huts and the siting of holiday caravans on approved sites;
- (2) The erection of holiday huts and the siting of holiday caravans on sites approved by the Town Planning Committee;
- (3) The provision of bathroom facilities in a holiday hut, and
- (4) The establishment of a temporary caravan park for 150 workers.

## **THE CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960**

During the year 3 applications for licences for new sites were received. Two related to single caravans in holiday sites and the third to a transportable residential home. All were approved, the last subject to certain fire precautions being observed.

## **THE AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956**

While the opportunity was taken where farm stabling alterations were being effected to recommend the inclusion where necessary of sanitary accommodation and washing facilities for agricultural workers, no notices were served in terms of Section 3 of this Act as applied to Scotland by Section 25.

## **THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961**

Data as to the action taken in terms of these Acts is provided in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

## **THE CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956**

The provisions of this Act, designed to promote and maintain a clean, healthful atmosphere throughout the land, are, fortunately, largely superfluous so far as the Landward Area of this County is concerned, and no action was taken under them.

## **THE NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960**

In the latter part of the year a series of complaints were received from residents in one district of the Village of West Linton concerning the noise emitted from a sand and gravel quarry on the outskirts of the village. On investigation, the noise was found to emanate from three sources: (1) The stone-crusher and grading hoppers, (2) the stone grading screens on the washing plant and (3) the engine of a dumper/loader vehicle used to load transport vehicles with sand from the stock-pile. The plant is unfortunately sited in that it stands on a level with the affected houses and at the bell-mouth of the quarry, the excavated walls of which act as a reflector throwing the sound towards the village. Several sets of readings in different conditions and at different times of the day were taken on a sound level meter both outside and inside some of the affected houses. The readings outside were regularly of the order of 58/65 dB, while those inside were 41/46 dB.

Some 18 visits were paid to the site by the Medical Officer of Health and/or myself and meetings were held with the quarry management. These resulted in the hoppers being lined with hard-

wood, a second silencer being fitted to the exhaust system of the dumper/loader vehicle and commercial rubber facings being fitted experimentally to certain of the stone chute surfaces. While these measures were to a very limited extent successful, it was not long before they succumbed to the wear and tear associated with this type of work and the management was having to reconsider the matter at the end of the year.

One of the main points of objection to the plant would appear to be the continual, as opposed to intermittent, noise emission. Such is the demand for sand and gravel that it operates six days and sometimes seven days per week from 7 a.m. till evening and it can be appreciated that, having elected to live in otherwise rural surroundings, it is unpleasant to have to endure this. Nevertheless, the Medical Officer of Health and myself are agreed that at the moment the noise level, while certainly annoying, does not constitute a nuisance in terms of the Act and we have advised the County Council accordingly.

The matter is being kept under review.

## **THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

Until the present time offices and office workers, by oversight or otherwise, have not enjoyed the safeguards and control of statute law as have their counterparts, the factories and shops and the workers therein. This legislation is designed to rectify this and contains provisions for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed to work in office, shop and certain railway premises. Its main provisions are due to come into operation on 1st August, 1964, but before that time all persons employing staff in offices, etc., must notify the appropriate authority on a prescribed form. Thereafter, the authority has a duty to inspect all premises thus registered and to enforce the various provisions of the Act.

The County Council has appointed me as their inspector in terms of Section 52(1) of the Act for the landward area of the County.

## **THE ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963**

This Act provides for the licensing and inspection by local authorities of any establishment at which a business of providing accommodation for cats or dogs is carried on. The local authority must have regard to the construction and size of the premises, their temperature, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness and exercising facilities, the number of occupants, the adequacy of suitable food, drink and bedding, etc. The accommodation of cats or dogs incidental to their veterinary treatment is exempted from the licensing requirement.

The County Council appointed me as their inspector in terms of Section 2 of the Act.



## **BURIAL GROUNDS**

The maintenance of burial grounds throughout the Landward Area of the County is the responsibility of the County Surveyor's Department. All those grounds in regular use were kept in good condition, while efforts were made, within the limits of finance and labour, to retain the disused grounds in reasonable shape.

## **WATER SUPPLY**

### **Walkerburn**

The contractors commenced work on the new upward flow filtration and chlorination plant at Howyards in June and by the end of the year progress had been made with the re-designed intake, the construction of the concrete filter shells, the conversion of the existing obsolete works into filtered water storage accommodation and the erection of the chlorinator house. The works are estimated to cost £23,000 and when completed should provide Walkerburn with a high quality water supply with plenty reserve against future development.

### **Carlops**

The Carlopshill supply, filtered in twin slow sand filters of traditional design, functioned satisfactorily with only routine maintenance throughout the year. To enable the County Council as local water authority to supply water for domestic purposes to premises at Carlops Bridge, in the County of Midlothian, application was made in terms of Section 18(1) of the Water (Scotland) Act, 1946, to the Secretary of State for Scotland, who, by the County of Peebles (Premises at Carlops Bridge) Water Order, 1963, sanctioned this supply.

### **Eddleston**

This supply, which draws its water from a gravel bed above the village and passes after storage into a 2" asbestos main, operated without trouble.

### **Drumelzier**

This supply is fed from an intake on the Logan Burn, a prolific tributary of the Drumelzier Burn, and is led to the village in a 2" asbestos main after settlement only. Regular maintenance by the local water officer prevented any failure on this supply, although trouble was experienced early in the year when a length of the main was fractured by frost penetration.

### **Skirling**

A reasonable consumption rate has been maintained in this village despite the widespread frost damage to service pipes during the severe winter necessitating the use of electrical de-freezing

equipment. Again due to a more than normally wet summer, no shortage was experienced, but, unfortunately, for the same reason I was unable to reach any conclusion on the flow reliability of the augmentatory supply noted in my last report. It may be that 1964 will provide the necessary dry weather conditions to establish this.

Two bursts occurred on the main during the year.

### **Horsbrugh Ford**

This small supply to 16 County Council houses proved adequate in 1963, again due entirely to the high rainfall. It is fortunate that it can readily be augmented from a nearby stream and that there is little likelihood of further housing development there. The 2" asbestos main was endangered when exposed by agricultural ditching works being carried out by a local farmer. Protective measures, however, were successfully taken to safeguard it.

### **West Linton and Newlands District**

The exceptionally severe weather during the first three months of the year rendered the filtration plant at Wakefield snow- and frost-bound and forced the watermen to make their way on foot over two miles of snowdrift by road and field to clear the ice from filter inlets and outlets. Considerable difficulties were experienced in West Linton Village during this time, when many small diameter mains and service pipes froze solid due to their having been laid many years ago at insufficient depth. Frost penetration into the earth was found to be of the order of 2' 6" and all sorts of emergency measures had to be adopted to provide the affected properties with water. Compressors had to be employed to open up the frost-bound ground and even these were none too successful. Electrically operated de-freezing equipment was hired from Edinburgh Corporation Water Department, but as the underground pipes froze again almost as soon as they were cleared of ice, this was only successful after the frost gave way. Even so, certain pipes were still ice-blocked three weeks after the thaw set in. These operations alone cost the County Council some £200, and this figure was doubled when later in the year I had certain of the mains and services worst affected replaced at a depth of 3 feet.

In June, the 6" main carrying water to Newlands Parish was fractured where it passes beneath the River Lyne in West Linton by contractors working for the South of Scotland Electricity Board. The river had to be dammed before repairs could be effected, but fortunately the damage was not as severe as had been anticipated and little interruption of the supply was occasioned.

### **Peebles District**

The four miles of main providing mechanically filtered and chlorinated water from Peebles Burgh to the Meldons area noted in my last report as having been reconstructed in 3" and 2" P.V.C. gave completely satisfactory service during the year.



Peebles Town Council were granted a Water Order by the Secretary of State for Scotland empowering them to supply water to a new house being erected at Kingsmeadows on the outskirts of Peebles but within the landward area of the County, where no County Council supply was available.

**Broughton**

As no County Council supply is available in this area of the County, Edinburgh Corporation obtained a Water Order referred to as the City of Edinburgh (Housing Development at Broughton, Peeblesshire) Water Order, 1963, empowering them to supply water for the private housing development scheduled to take place at Broughton mentioned in my last year's report.

In February, a burst occurred on one of Edinburgh Corporation's 33" diameter trunk mains from Talla Reservoir where it passes through Broughton Village. Considerable damage was done to the roadway and to house properties in the vicinity before the necessary repairs were effected.

**Metered Supplies**

The number of properties receiving metered water supplies from the County Council is as follows:

Private Properties (Hotels, Farms, etc.)	....	....	50
County Council Properties (Public Conveniences, Schools, Sewage Works, etc.)	....	....	8

In addition, there are a further 11 master or other meters on the various mains throughout the County.

**Supplies Against which Special Charges are Imposed**

Water supplied to the undernoted businesses, agricultural and industrial undertakings is charged on a scale laid down in the County Council's Scale of Special Charges levied in terms of Section 25 of the Water (Scotland) Act, 1949, and in addition to any Domestic Water Rate imposed on these properties.

(1) Cafes	....	....	....	3	(6) Refrigerators	....	....	....	2
(2) Joiner's Yards	....	....	....	4	(7) Motor Vehicles	....	....	....	33
(3) Builder's Yards	....	....	....	2	(8) Field Troughs	....	....	....	19
(4) Plumbers	....	....	....	2	(9) Sheep Dipper	....	....	....	1
(5) Shops (a) Grocer	....	....	....	4	(10) Garden Taps and/or Hoses	....	....	....	25
(b) Fruiterer	....	....	....	1					
(c) Butcher	....	....	....	2					
(d) Chemist	....	....	....	1					
(e) Baker	....	....	....	2					

**Water Used in Building and Engineering Projects**

Where mains water is used on building and civil engineering projects a charge, based on 6/6d per £100 of the over-all cost of

the contract (all trades whether water-consuming or not) is levied. The following works fell to be so charged during the year:

New dwellinghouses	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
New Clubhouse	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Improvements, alterations, extensions, conversions, etc., of dwellinghouses, hotels and institutions	....	....	....	....	....	....	15

Sampling

Samples for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination were procured from private supplies on request or where application for grant-aid in terms of Part VII of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, or the Agricultural (Miscellaneous Provisions) Acts, 1941 and 1944, involved the testing of new sources of supply.

Reason for Sample	Chemical	Bacteriological
Investigational Samples (Housing Grants, suspected pollution, new sources, etc.)	1	5
Rural Water Supplies (Requests for purposes of grant)	3	3
	4	8

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There are five Special Drainage Districts in the County—West Linton, Walkerburn, Carlops, Eddleston and Skirling. Of these, the first three have sewerage systems discharging to disposal works, the remainder having septic tank installations.

The sewage disposal plant at Walkerburn serves a population of some 3500, comprising Walkerburn 1000 and Innerleithen Burgh 2500, and the plant is in the charge of Mr A. Fairnie, Burgh Surveyor of Innerleithen. Of fairly modern design and well maintained, its effluent could only be regarded as fair due to overloading by textile wastes.

Carlops sewage disposal plant, comprising detritus chamber, twin sedimentation tanks, biological filter and sludge lagoon, serves a population of around 120. The effluent was sampled on four occasions by the Pollution Prevention Department of the Lothians River Purification Board. The first two samples failed to meet the Royal Commission standards and this I considered to be due to defects in the dosing arrangements at the biological filter. When this equipment had been overhauled and new distributor arms fitted two samples taken subsequently were satisfactory.

Although little progress was made during the year on the provision of the new sewage disposal plant to serve the village of West Linton and a nearby residential camp school, discussions were held with the consultant engineers and the administrative and technical officials of the Scottish Development Department on matters relative to grant-aid, design and function. One cause of hold-up lay in site acquisition difficulties, finally resolved to accommodate the land-

owner, by an alternative site of approximately 2.8 acres being selected, this, in turn, requiring further re-design of the plant. However, by the end of the year preliminary site investigation works had been successfully carried out and it is hoped that 1964 will see a start being made to the actual construction works.

The laying of a new 6" effluent pipe from the septic tank serving the village of Skirling to the Spittal Burn, mentioned in my last report, was completed as soon as the weather permitted and this has solved the gradient difficulties of the old pipe.

As I have said before, septic tanks installations are, of course, by far the most common drainage arrangements in this County of isolated habitations and their number continues to increase. Twenty-one new installations were approved, all to this Department's model specification and to the satisfaction of the appropriate River Purification Board.

### **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

The County Special Scavenging District includes the whole Landward Area of the County—an area of 350 square miles. In populous districts and on routes thereto domestic refuse is uplifted twice weekly, while in the sparsely populated areas this is reduced to once weekly, and in the case of extremely remote and isolated premises the refuse collector calls by arrangement.

The staff of the Cleansing Department continues to be a foreman/driver, a driver, 2 refuse loaders and 2 part-time refuse tip attendants. Two 18 cu. yd. dual tip, rear-loading, diesel refuse collecting vehicles are in use and 1 old 10 cu. yd. side-loading petrol vehicle with detachable hood is retained as a spare and utilised for the transport of gravel quarry waste material to Horsburgh Castle tip, where it is used as top dressing.

As the older of the 18 cu. yd. vehicles has now been in service for more than 7 years with the Department, it is my intention to replace it in the financial year 1964/65 with a vehicle equipped with a mechanical refuse compression device as it is obvious that the ever-increasing bulk/weight ratio of refuse must in some way be countered to obviate as much as possible the dead mileage running on disposal.

Refuse disposal is by controlled-tip methods, three such tips continuing in operation, at Deepsykhead, serving the north-west half of the County; at Wrae Quarry, Broughton, serving the south-west, and at Horsburgh Castle, Peebles, serving the eastern end of the County.

Deepsykhead and Horsburgh Castle tips are well maintained by part-time labour and that at Wrae Quarry has also been considerably improved this year by the increased use of good top-dressing material. Although the lease of Deepsykhead tip expired in May, tipping continued there throughout the year by tacit agreement of the owner, and it is hoped that this may be continued until the site is fully developed.

The cleansing service is another function of this Department badly affected by the severe weather conditions experienced in the early part of the year. In many cases of outlying properties it was physically impossible to collect refuse for weeks on end, while on occasions refuse, once collected, had to be temporarily tipped in roadside quarries, etc., to be reloaded and disposed of finally when conditions improved.

The collection, sorting and baling of waste paper continued on a small scale, some 6 tons being ingathered, mainly to obviate its nuisance value on the refuse tips.

During the year the Department, using a transportable mechanical sludge pump and sludge tank trailer unit, cleared 5 septic tanks on a charge basis.

The problem of litter is still very much with us and the Litter Act as far as can be seen a dead letter. The County Council is extremely conscious of the position and very much concerned over the threat to the amenity of this rural County. So much so, indeed, that the County Surveyor and myself were directed during the year to prepare a report on the matter with recommendations. As this document throws the problem into relief and shows its scale and financial implications in this small part of Scotland, I feel it is worthwhile reproducing here in its entirety.

## **Joint Report by the County Surveyor and County Sanitary Inspector on the Problem of Litter in the Landward Area of Peeblesshire**

### **I — The Problem**

“It is impossible to get accurate figures but, at a conservative estimate, around 2000 to 3000 cars with 5000 to 10,000 people picnic somewhere in Peeblesshire every fine week-end. Each day some hundreds of lorry drivers take their meals on County road-sides.

“205 miles of roads are maintained by the County Council, but the problem extends beyond public roads in many places. About 70 popular picnicking spots, lay-byes and unofficial pull-ins are supplied with litter bins which are cleared by the Cleansing Department on either weekly, fortnightly or monthly rounds.

“The problems of collecting are many. There is considerable seasonal variation in the amount of litter deposited. In some weeks one clearance may be sufficient, but there are time when two clearances a week would not be enough.

“At popular picnicking spots, even where litter bins are provided, picnic litter, including cartons, papers, decayed food and broken bottles, are usually spread for a distance of 20 to 30 yards in the surrounding fields and woods.

“The increasing affluence of the population and the developing use of cartons and other popular packaging materials make the litter problem an expanding one.



“ If the number of motor cars doubles in the next 10 years as is expected, it is reasonable to assume that the amount of litter will also double.

“ A survey of the County was carried out in August to ascertain the number of locations which, ideally, should be provided with litter receptacles and no less than 145 sites were listed. As on certain of these it would be necessary to have two or more receptacles, the total number needed is approximately 200, with at least a further 20% in reserve.

**II — The Solution**

“ It must be appreciated that if the problem outlined above is to be tackled successfully there must be co-operation from public, police and local authority. The public must be exhorted by signs, notices and advertisement to keep Peeblesshire tidy, to take their litter home or, failing this, to dispose of it in the receptacles provided. The police must enforce vigorously the provisions of the Litter Act and be as vigilant over litter as they are over motoring offences. The Local Authority must provide notice boards, suitable litter receptacles in adequate numbers, and an efficient service to maintain and empty them at reasonable intervals and to dispose of the contents in an acceptable manner. It would be advantageous if, at the same time, the Local Authority were to consider establishing a programme for the provision of properly formed lay-byes with tarmac surfaces, each large enough to hold 5 or 6 vehicles, every two or three miles along the more important roads so that the public could be encouraged to use these rather than the variety of odd corners, quarry holes, field entrances, road junctions or wide verges which are such popular picnic spots at present.

“ The Local Authority services in the shape of the County Roads Department and County Cleansing Department as presently constituted are inadequate to deal with a problem of this dimension as each are fully committed with their day-to-day functions, although currently each does what it can to keep the situation under control, the Roads Department by its roadmen who carry out a considerable amount of litter removal along the roads and in the vicinity of lay-byes, official and otherwise, and the Cleansing Department which has installed some 70 bins along the routes its vehicles use, these being emptied during the normal runs involved in the removal of domestic refuse in populous places throughout the County. It is unfortunate, of course, that peak litter deposits coincide with the busy season for these departments.

“ In our view, to provide a full litter removal service would involve:

- |   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| (1) The provision of 240 litter receptacles, say, at £5 each          | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | £1200 |
| (2) The provision of a specialised vehicle at, say, a capital cost of | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | £2000 |



- |   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| (3) The employment of a driver full time, say, per annum                                    | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | £700 |
| (4) The employment during period 1st April to 31st October of one assistant, say, per annum |      |      |      |      |      | .... | £350 |

“ It is envisaged that to service the receptacles adequately will require them to be emptied not less than twice per week on the busy routes and not less than once per week elsewhere during the period 1st April to 31st October. During the remainder of the year one collection per fortnight should be sufficient.

“ The annual running costs of such a service would therefore be in the region of £1700, from which would fall to be deducted the grant-aid on maintenance payable by the Scottish Development Department in respect of receptacles on trunk and classified roads and any sum recoverable from either the Roads or Cleansing Departments (dependent on which operated the service) for the services of the vehicle and driver on non-litter functions in the winter months when it is possible that after allowance for the reduced litter removal service, and the maintenance and repair of receptacles, there might be a small surplus of time available for other duties.”

## GENERAL

I would take this opportunity to acknowledge gratefully the assistance in carrying out my duties afforded me by the members of the County Council, the Medical Officer of Health, my fellow officers of this and other local authorities and central government officials.

At the same time I would thank the staff and employees of this Department for their efforts in carrying out so well their many and varied functions.

I. R. M. GUTHRIE,  
*County Sanitary Inspector.*

COUNTY BUILDINGS,  
PEEBLES,  
*1st May, 1964.*



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